

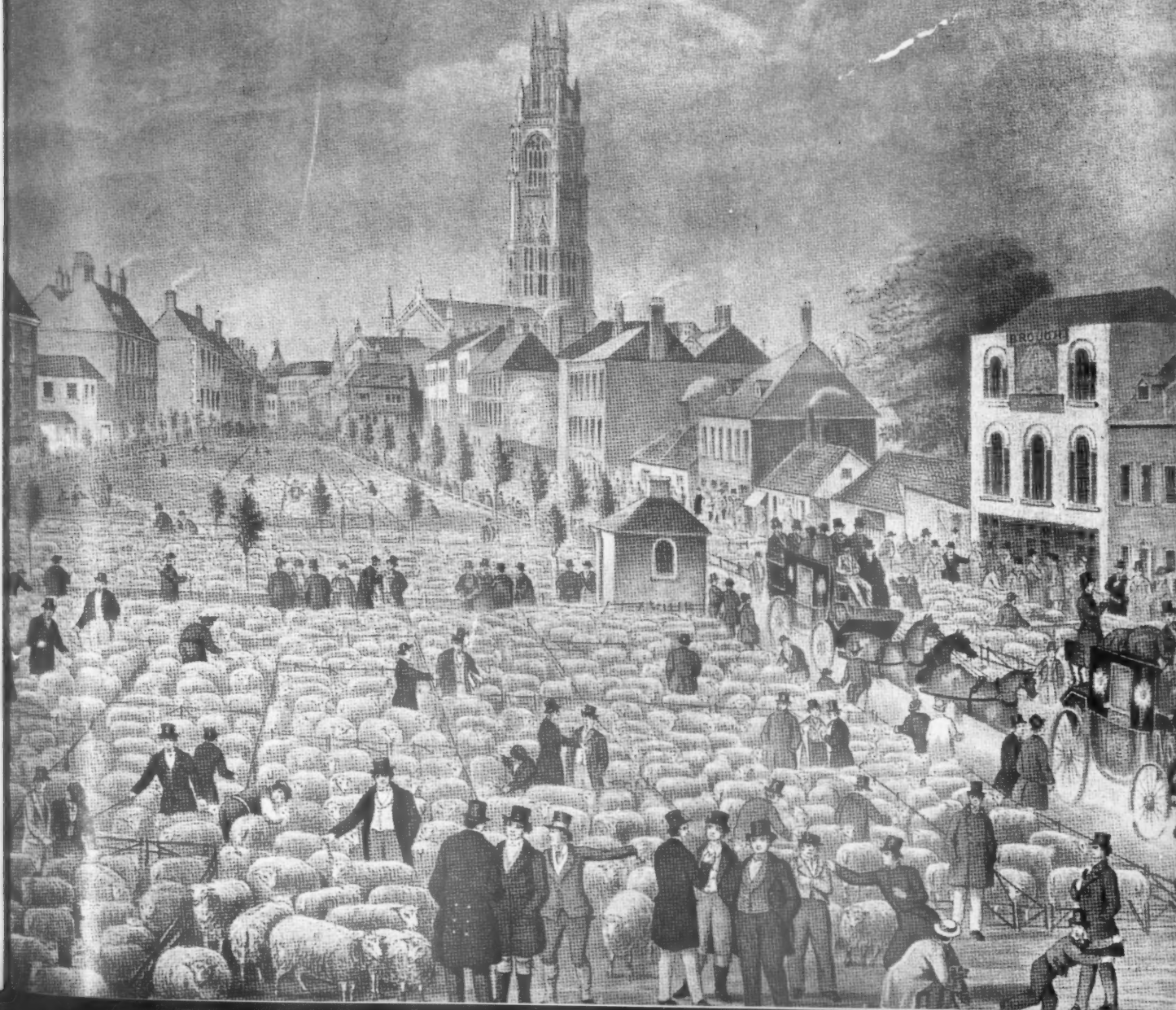
THE NATIONAL Wool Grower

Volume XXXIV

APRIL, 1944

Number 4

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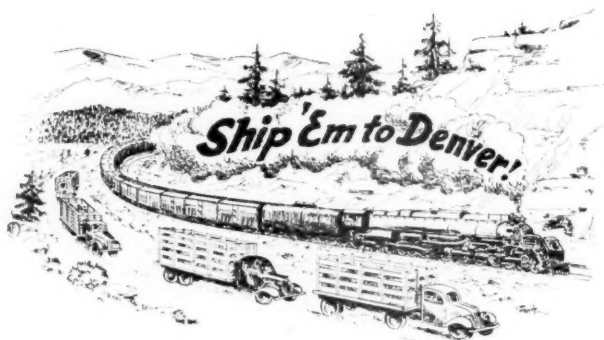
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"I am a strong believer in feeding MoorMan's Range Minerals to sheep. I feed the powder during the winter months and the Blockettes on the range in the summertime.

"I lamb out about 2,400 ewes, and it certainly helps in saving our twin lambs. Our losses are very few.

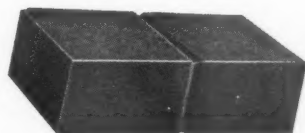
"The lambs are of uniform size, and are strong and healthy—they mature faster.

In wintertime, Mr. Heeney supplies ALL his flock's mineral needs with the work-saving 5-pound MoorMan's Sheep Mineral Blockettes—speaks highly of the profit-making results.

"My ewe losses have been cut considerable, and their teeth last better so we get a couple years' more lamb crops from them.

"By feeding the bucks minerals besides the ewes, we have found that we get a more even lamb crop which is a great help.

"The ewes in the enclosed pictures have been on range pasture. You can readily see they are in good flesh, and very healthy."



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For History of the Breed. List of Members. Pedigree Blanks, Etc., Address the Secretary. Recognized by the Canadian National Livestock Records

"Old Stuff"

Since 1935 there has been hanging in the office of the National Wool Growers Association a print of an engraving carrying the legend: "To the Gentry, Farmers, Graziers, Dealers, Tradesmen, etc., of Lincolnshire, This Engraving of Boston, May Sheep-Fair is most humbly dedicated by their very obedient servant, George Northouse. Reproduced by Draper Top Company, Boston, Massachusetts." As much as possible of that print—we are sorry we could not get in the Red Cow Inn—is reproduced on our cover this month.

The Draper Top Company tell us that the May Sheep Fair has been held annually in Boston, England, since the twelfth century; that in 1369 Boston became the great "Staple Town" of the wool trade in England and the arms of the city were given a crest of a lamb and a wool sack in recognition of the importance of wool to the town. Further they say:

"Early in the 17th century when a large part of the population of Old Boston sailed to the New World to found Boston in Massachusetts, they carried with them the heritage of wool. Largely because of this, their descendants made Boston, Massachusetts, the wool center of the United States, a position which it still maintains.

"The tower in the background is the "Old Stump," the spire of Boston's Church, the highest Gothic tower in England. The foundations of this church were laid on fleece in 1309, the wool serving to bind the sand and clay. Until the Puritan exodus, a fire was lighted nightly in the belfry to guide marines at sea.

"In 1933 the "Old Stump" was restored with money contributed by the citizens of Boston, Massachusetts, and in appreciation of the gift an electric beacon was installed where the old fires used to burn."

The original engraving, "Boston, May-Sheep Fair," is owned by the State Street Trust Company of Boston, Massachusetts.

**REMEMBER THE DATES: AUGUST 22 AND 23, 1944
 AND THE PLACE: NORTH SALT LAKE, UTAH
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The Cutting Chute

**Old Copy National Wool
 Grower Wanted**

The Agricultural Library of the University of Wisconsin, Madison 6, Wisconsin, is anxious to obtain a copy of the November, 1937, issue of the National Wool Grower for its files. The University of Wisconsin is keeping a complete set of the National Wool Grower and will appreciate it very much if anyone having a copy of that number will send it to them.

Junior Market Lamb Show

The sixth annual Chicago Junior Market Lamb Show and sale will be held at the Chicago Stockyards on Friday, June 16, 1944. Sixty cash prizes totaling \$250.00 are offered by the Union Stock Yard & Transit Company, operators of the Chicago market, and sponsors of this event. Additional cash awards are offered by the American Hampshire Sheep Association, the American Shropshire Registry Association, and by the National Suffolk Sheep Association, for lambs representing these three breeds.

The National Wool Grower

Meat for American War Prisoners

During the past year 13,884,540 pounds of meat and meat products were shipped, through the American Red Cross, to American and United Nations prisoners of war. These meat items were included in the 7,405,088 prisoner-of-war food parcels packed by Red Cross volunteers which were delivered through the International Red Cross Committee to prisoner-of-war camps in Axis nations and in the Far East. Included in the standard food parcels were 12 ounces each of pork luncheon meat and corned beef, and 6 ounces of liver paste. Each parcel shipped to the Far East included an additional 12-ounce can of pork luncheon meat.

Range Management Service

The livestock and wool commission firm of Merrion and Wilkins of Denver, Colorado, is offering a ranch management service to non-resident owners, banks, trust and insurance companies. The service includes the making of analysis of ranch properties with a view to more efficient operation by the owners and also outright management of ranches.

Distribution of Anti-Freeze

Based on experiences of the past winter when miners in the Rockies and essential war workers in other extremely cold war areas were unable to obtain anti-freeze to protect their cars, the War Production Board has established anti-freeze distribution control which will give its Chemicals Bureau power to direct the flow of alcohol and anti-freeze into various sections of the country.

Miss Wardlaw Marries

Miss Frances Rachel Wardlaw, charming daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Wardlaw of Del Rio, Texas, was married in a candle-light ceremony on March 18 to Lieutenant James Lloyd Carter, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Carter of Spofford, Texas. The new Mrs. Carter has attended many conventions of the National Wool Growers Association with her father and has a wide acquaintance among members of the sheep industry.

Prominent Cattleman Dies

Charles E. Collins, cattleman, banker, business man and legislative leader, died in a Denver hospital on March 29. Death was due to pneumonia complicated with a heart attack. Mr. Collins, a resident of Kit Carson, Colorado, would have been 75 years old next July.

50 Years in Wool Trade

A distinct contribution has been made to the story of pioneer days in western wool buying by Marcus Harris of the Harris Wool and Fur Company, in a recent publication entitled, "50 Years in Wool Trading as Remembered and Dictated by Marcus Harris." Dedicated to "my friends the Wool Growers," the 25-page booklet will give every one interested in the wool industry a delightful half hour of reading.

April, 1944



FUL-O-PEP CUBES HELP MY EWES GIVE PLENTY OF MILK!

Concentrated Spring Range* and other Vitamin Sources in Ful-O-Pep Promote Heavy Wool Clip and Abundant Milk for Lambs.

BUILDING HEAVY WOOL CLIP and providing abundant milk for nursing lambs is a job of feeding. Range alone often fails to build up ewes for the job of producing wool and milk. Even ordinary range supplements may be lacking in necessary vitamins and minerals. That's why Ful-O-Pep Range Breeder Cubes are fortified with Nature's Richest Vitamin Combination—a Vitamin Boost derived from fresh, tender cereal grasses, along with other vitamin-rich sources.

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April, 1944

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509 Pacific National Life Building

Salt Lake City 1, Utah

J. M. Jones

Irene Young } Editors

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members in the United States and Canada \$1.50 per year; foreign \$2.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

Affairs in Washington

MARCH, a month of hearings, has kept representatives of the National Wool Growers Association in Washington on the rush. The Special House Subcommittee appointed to make a study of the wool situation under the chairmanship of Congressman Granger of Utah started its hearings on March 10 (reported elsewhere in this issue). During the latter half of the month the Banking and Currency Committee of the Senate began its hearings on the extension of the life of the Office of Price Administration. Also on March 14 and 15, the Commodity Credit Corporation held a conference on the 1944 wool handler's agreement (reported in some detail in this issue). At all of these hearings the National Wool Growers Association has been represented.

Congressman Granger of Utah, chairman of the Special House Committee studying the wool situation, is doing very commendable work for the wool growing industry. He has called before his committee all agencies that have anything to do with wool and through their testimonies is building up and making available for Congressional review the most complete picture of the entire wool industry that we have ever had.

Congressmen William S. Hill of Colorado and Ross Riley of Oklahoma, members of the committee, have been very faithful attenders at all meetings and have contributed much. Congressmen Frank A. Barrett of Wyoming and O. C. Fisher of Texas, although not members of the committee, have also taken great interest in the hearings and given them their support.

O. P. A. Extension

ON March 31, 1944, the Banking and Currency Committee of the Senate adjourned its hearings on the extension of the life of the Office of Price Administration until April 12, when Congress will reconvene following its Easter recess. There has been such a large number of requests for appearances from members of various industries that it is expected that three or four more days will be required before the hearings can be completed. The House Banking and Currency Committee expects to begin its hearings on the same subject on April 12 and they will probably last until May 9.

The importance of and interest in these hearings are shown by the number of testimonies by heads of all Government agencies, including Secretary of War Stimson, who have already appeared before the Senate Committee.

Space will not permit a review of the material presented.

While most of the time had been given to these Government agencies, commencing Tuesday, March 28, livestock and agricultural organizations were permitted to testify for a very limited time. Representatives of the livestock organizations appeared on the 28th, and farm organizations presented their testimony on the 29th and 30th. All of these organizations felt that there was a definite need for price control. Their main objection was to the manner in which the O.P.A. had carried out, or failed to carry out, the Stabilization Act of Congress. A summary of the testimony presented by your Secretary and Mr. M. A. Smith of Salt Lake City will appear in the May issue of the Wool Grower along with

a review of recommendations that are to be made by livestock representatives at the hearings before the House Banking and Currency Committee opening on April 12.

Appropriation For Enforcement Of W. P. L. Act

WOOLGROWERS are also indebted to Senators O'Mahoney of Wyoming and Hayden of Arizona for having \$172,410 earmarked for the enforcement of the Wool Products Labeling Act in the appropriation for the Federal Trade Commission during the fiscal year 1944-1945. Last year, for the first time, Congress made an appropriation for the enforcement of this act and earmarked it so that it had to be used for that particular purpose. This year the house passed the Federal Trade Commission's appropriation but failed to earmark any part of it for the enforcement of the Wool Products Labeling Act. This matter was called to Senator O'Mahoney's attention by Mr. J. B. Wilson, and when the appropriation bill covering executive and independent offices came up in the Senate, Senator Hayden, at Senator O'Mahoney's request, proposed an amendment earmarking not less than \$172,410 for the enforcement of the Wool Products Labeling Act. The amendment was agreed to by the Senate and the record was corrected to show that this was what was intended.

Trucks - Parts - Repairs

A MEETING with Mr. Hicks of the Office of Defense Transportation on March 18, 1944, revealed that the outlook for new equipment is not bright. Out of an allotment of 7,500 heavy duty trucks for the fourth quarter of 1943, fewer than 200 were received and none of these went into commercial channels. The delivery schedule for the first quarter of 1944 is on time only because partially fabricated trucks due in the last quarter of 1943 have been completed. Lack of facilities for the manufacture of the trucks and the inability to secure certain parts are the bottlenecks. For example, up until recently the Army has been taking all of the axles manufactured. As a result delivery on many trucks was held up because no axles were available.

The allocation of new equipment and parts for civilians is now ten per cent of the output, and the civilian branch is receiving this amount, which is much better than the old plan of permitting the civilians to have what was left after other programs were completed.

There seems to be little chance of getting light trucks and pickups. There won't be any available, in fact, until factories have completed the requirements for the armed forces. Then, there will be some chance but, from present indications, it will be slight.

More trucks are now moving into commercial channels than for some time past, and the parts and repair situation is improving but it is still difficult.

The important thing for those who are in very great need of equipment to do is to make application through the regular channels provided by the O.D.T. and grant authorization to change the make desired if necessary. It takes six weeks to change applications, so if you allow a substitute and so state, considerable time and effort will be saved.

As fast as Army requirements are completed, factories are changing over to civilian needs. This is slow at the present time, but some of the programs are being completed. The overall picture is not very bright.

Ammunition

CONGRESSMAN Frank A. Barrett of Wyoming called a conference on March 17 on the matter of ammunition for predatory animal control. Attending the meeting were W. P. Blanchet and L. W. Lipscomb of the Government Division of the War Production Board; J. B. Wilson, legislative chairman of the National Wool Growers Association; W. P. Wing, secretary of the California Wool Growers Association; A. H. Caine, representing the Idaho Wool Growers Association; and your National Secretary.

Congressman Barrett told the W.P.B. representatives that immediate and concrete action was necessary to meet the extreme need of wool growers and other stockmen for ammunition.

The representatives of the W.P.B. stated that raw materials and supplies have been allocated for the production of 30 million rounds of center-fire ammunition for the United States for the first two quarters of this year, but that some of it would not be in the hands of the livestock men until September 1. We pressed on them the fact that now and during the early summer months was the most necessary time to have this ammunition in the hands of the growers.

The caliber sizes to be produced this year are: 300 Savage, 32 Winchester, 35 Remington, 30 Remington, 25-20,

250-000 Savage, 30-40 Krag, 30-06, 38-40, 44-40 and 32-30. Approximately 12 million of the 30 million rounds will be 30-30 caliber. Materials have been allocated for the first two quarters of 1944 to produce 250 million rounds of shotgun shells. W.P.B. indicated plenty of 22 shells. Since the first of January, over 200 million have been distributed, largely in the western states, and 325 million 22 shells are now on order. They stated also that there were now in the hands of the dealers sufficient quantities of 30-06's.

The following shipments of center-fire ammunition have been delivered to western states since January 1, 1944, or are now in transit:

- 3,390,000 rounds of 30-30 ammunition
- 300,000 rounds of 25-35 ammunition
- 200,000 rounds of 32 Winchester Specials

The production in March for delivery between the 1st and the 15th of May is composed of the following amounts and calibers:

- 500,000 rounds of 300 Savage
- 500,000 rounds of 35 Remington
- 500,000 rounds of 270 Winchester
- 1,000,000 rounds of 30-30

All of the above ammunition is to be distributed under L.286 to take care of the ranchers' and farmers' needs for predatory animal control. The amounts indicated as shipped or in transit were all sent to the western states, and that section is getting a major percentage of the March production.

We again hope, as in the past, that this ammunition is shipped to the West as soon as possible. We have urged the W.P.B. to make a special effort.

The stockmen of the West certainly owe a debt of gratitude to Congressman Barrett for his tireless efforts in our behalf. He certainly keeps on this ammunition question, and on all others pertaining to the West.

J.M.J.

C. C. C. Hearings On 1944 Wool Handler's Agreement

CONFERENCES were held by the Commodity Credit Corporation with representatives of the wool industry on March 14 and 15 for the purpose of discussing the contract or agreement between that agency and the approved wool handlers to be used in purchasing the 1944 wool clip. Thirty-four representatives from various branches of the industry and government participated in the meetings. There were ten representatives from government agencies, four from wool cooperatives, thirteen for the dealers, and for the growers: Messrs. Earwood, Lea, and Willoughby of Texas; W. P. Wing of California; A. H. Caine of Idaho; J. B. Wilson, Legislative Chairman of the National, and the National Secretary.

Growers' interest in the conference

centered largely on the proposal to increase handler's charges. The dealers claim they are unable to meet expenses on the basis of the charges allowed under the 1943 agreement—that is, 1½ cents per grease pound on lots of 5,000 pounds and over and 2½ cents on lots of less than 5,000 pounds. They asked that charges be increased to 1 3-4 cents and 2½ cents respectively. The National Wool Marketing Corporation stated that they did not contemplate charging this increased fee, if it were allowed, but that they had no objection to the increase. The National Secretary objected to any increase in charges to the wool grower for handling the 1944 clip. This position was upheld by the other wool grower representatives. Secretary Jones' statement printed below shows that in the 13 western states last year the cost of producing wool exceeded by more than \$5,000,000 the amount received for that commodity, or about 2 cents per pound, and that the loss in producing lambs was over \$1.50 a hundredweight on the average.

The extremely large liquidation in sheep in 1943 was cited as further evidence that the cost of production was not being met.

All of the dealers were not in agreement that increased handling charges were necessary. Some of them felt that an increase of a quarter of a cent in grading charges was required. The dealers were asked to submit evidence of the necessity for the increase, based on their operating costs, and the C.C.C. promised to make a definite announcement of its decision in the matter within a week.

Permission to submit figures on the cost of wool production was asked by the National Secretary but the request was denied by the C.C.C. on the grounds that the handling charges last year were based entirely on estimates without previous experience to use as a guide, and that now, after one year's experience, they could determine whether an injustice had been done. It should be remembered by all growers

that the charges fixed by the C.C.C. will be maximum (not to be exceeded) and that not all handlers will charge the maximum.

Another point that came up for considerable discussion at the conference was "direct mill buying." It was not decided whether mills would be allowed to buy direct this year, as was the case under last year's contract. The C.C.C.'s decision in this matter will also be made known when the terms of the new contract are announced around April 1, the expiration date of the 1943 agreement.

There was also disagreement as to the amount of wool that could be purchased outright by handlers. Last year, if desired, clips of 1,000 pounds or less could be bought outright by handlers. It was proposed at the conference by some of the representatives that the outright sale of 5,000 pounds or less be permitted. The National Wool Marketing Corporation and the Pacific Wool Growers objected to this increase in the amount of wool that could be purchased by the handlers while the wool grower representatives took the position that just as long as it was optional to either sale or consign they were not concerned about the amount. The important thing they felt was to have as many avenues as possible open to the growers.

On wool that requires grading, an advance payment equivalent to 75 per cent of its estimated value will be available to the grower at the time of delivery to the handler. A quarter of a cent per pound will be added to the grower's expenses to compensate for the increased service of issuing two account sales and other items in connection with the advance. The C.C.C. advances the money and no interest charge other than the quarter of a cent will be made. This advance payment is optional and no grower is required to take it because his wool has to be graded.

It was brought out at the conference that a much larger proportion of the wool purchased by the C.C.C. in 1944 will be graded than under last year's program.

From the discussion with the C.C.C. it seems apparent that that agency is going to continue to charge the freight, or a portion of it, to Boston on wool sold in the West, the reason being that they have not found a way to make their program fair to all without making this charge. The main difficulty is to get

the money back to the grower whose wool is sold in the West. It was pointed out in the meeting that far less than 20 per cent of the wool stored in Portland in 1943 by the C.C.C. had been sold to western mills. Under the 1943 program wool stored in Portland was charged a freight rate of \$2 per hun-

SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

May 15-16: California Ram Sale, Sacramento County Fair Grounds, Galt, California.

August 12: New Mexico Ram Sale, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

August 22-23: National Ram Sale, North Salt Lake, Utah.

November 4-8: Ogden Livestock Show, Ogden, Utah.

dredweight instead of the actual freight rate of \$2.40.

Consideration also was given at the conference to the problem of secondary handlers. Those interested in that question felt that a change in the rules governing this type of handler was very desirable. Therefore, it was decided to attempt in this year's program to divide the secondary handlers into three classifications based on the services performed and to adjust the charges on that basis.

Prices to be paid for this year's clip will conform very closely with those that prevailed last year. The schedule of prices proposed by Durham Jones, Chief Wool Appraiser has been approved by the Office of Price Administration, and will be printed next month.

J.M.J.

Growers Protest Against Increased Charges

The National Secretary's statement opposing any increase in the charges to be assessed against the grower for handling the 1944 wool clip follows:

It is necessary for me as Secretary of the National Wool Growers to object strongly to any increased charges to the wool grower in the handling of the 1944 wool clip.

The proposed increase of a quarter of a cent per pound in handling charges seems rather insignificant, but this additional cost or burden on the sheep industry would amount to around \$925,000 for the entire United States and for the twelve western states and Texas to over \$647,000. This in-

creased charge, in the face of ceiling prices now below the cost of production, just adds "fuel to the fire," with very little relief if any in sight at all for the sheep industry.

The cost of producing wool in the thirteen western states in 1943 was over five million dollars above the prices received, or about 2 cents per pound. Our figures, which we feel are the most reliable that are available, also show that the loss in producing lambs amounted to \$1.59 per hundred-weight.

It is a very odd picture when, during time of war and great need, such an important industry as ours is placed in this predicament by government regulation and manipulation. The truth of these statements is very easily shown by the reduction in the number of sheep and lambs on farms as reported by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. There were 9 per cent fewer ewe lambs held over for replacements on January 1, 1944, than one year ago, 7 per cent fewer breeding ewes on hand, and 24 per cent more wether lambs because a home could not be found for them any where near the cost of production.

The sheep industry of this country did not bring this condition upon themselves. They were asked to increase production as much as possible for our country at war. Therefore, numbers rose from an average of 52,669,000 for the years 1933 to 1942, to 56,735,000 head, or an 8 per cent increase in 1942.

The latter part of 1942 began to show a darker outlook for the industry with the increasing cost and difficulty of securing efficient labor, the limitation on the use of wool for civilians, stationary ceiling prices, regulations and manipulations of other prices, and the accumulation of an enormous stockpile of wool in this country. These costs and other difficulties increased rapidly through 1943. On January 1, 1944, government figures showed that a reduction of sheep and lambs on farms amounting to over 4 million head had occurred in the one year. Further liquidation would undoubtedly have taken place had there not been bottlenecks which backed the sheep onto the ranches.

If, for 1944, the farm wages and other costs show the same upward climb that they have been making each year since 1940, the ranch cost of wool will be more than 5 cents per pound above what the wool brought in 1943.

I have no doubt that the agents of the Commodity Credit Corporation who handle this wool have been subjected to greatly increased costs, while working under strict ceiling prices for their services. From our own situation I know that their contention may well be justified, and should the C.C.C. deem it necessary to work out with the handlers an increased allowance for the sale of the wool after it comes into the hands of the C.C.C., there could certainly be no objection on our part, but under the present situation an increased charge to the grower certainly cannot be justified.

In a country like ours, one group cannot continue to profit at the expense of another. We believe that the present situation has been brought about through a maladjustment of prices over which neither the producer, handler, or processor had any control. The responsibility lies at present with the Government and should be handled by it.

We are thankful that the C.C.C., a branch of our Government has seen fit to assist the domestic wool grower by the purchase of the wool clips under the present conditions.

J. M. Jones

Provisions of 1944 Wool Purchase Order

Word has just come from Washington, April 11, that Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Grover B. Hill, has signed the order covering the purchase of the 1944 domestic wool clip by the Commodity Credit Corporation, after conferring with Senators O'Mahoney, Wyoming; Thomas, Idaho; and Murray, Montana; and Representatives Barrett, Wyoming, and Fisher, Texas; several departmental officials, and J. M. Jones, secretary of the National Wool Growers Association.

Increases of a quarter of a cent per pound on lots of 5,000 pounds or more and half a cent on lots under 5000 pounds, are granted handlers.

WHILE official announcement of the terms under which the 1944 wool clip will be purchased by the Commodity Credit Corporation has not been made (April 6), it is understood that they will be similar to those applying in 1943.

Increases, however, in the maximum charges allowed for handling the clip have been agreed to by the C.C.C. officials, it is reported, despite protests made by growers' representatives. Section E of Article 8 of the 1944 agreement will say, according to latest information, that a primary handler may deduct as much as 1½ cents (1½ cents in 1943) per pound of grease wool or 4¼ cents (3¼ cents in 1943) per pound of scoured or carbonized wool purchased in lots of 5,000 pounds or more. For wool purchased in lots of less than 5,000 pounds, a handler may charge up to 2½ cents (2 cents in 1943) per pound of grease wool or 5½ cents (5 cents in 1943) per pound of scoured or carbonized wool. No charges are set separately for the handling of lots of less than a thousand pounds as was the case last year, but under the above rates the increase allowed in the handling charge for such small lots amounts to a fourth of a cent. These charges may not be asked by all handlers; they are maximum not minimum charges.

Section 5 of the preliminary draft of the agreement states: "On wool in the original bag which requires grading, if a producer, pool, or secondary handler desires a partial payment before the wool has been graded . . . the handler shall make to such producer, pool, or

secondary handler, a provisional payment equal to 75 per cent of the value of the wool as estimated by the appraisal committee . . ." This advance payment, of course, is optional, but if asked for, the handler is permitted to make a charge of one-fourth of a cent per grease pound to cover extra clerical work.

Adjustments are also being made in the price schedule for the purpose of ironing out inequities in the 1943 listing. In making the proposals for these changes, Durham Jones, chief appraiser, said: "It is obvious that in a free market, operating only within a ceiling, many inferior types of wool find their own level through the working of the law of supply and demand. In a fixed market, with all wools appraised at the ceiling, many of the inferior types are badly overvalued and completely out of line with the good to choice wools." This improper relationship will be corrected, it is understood, in the 1944 schedule.

Except for handlers' commission, 1944 charges, so far as the grower is concerned, will be approximately as in 1943. The grading charge remains at three fourths of a cent a pound. Freight charged will be the actual rate to Boston, and in the case of wools appraised at Portland, Oregon, the same freight charges will be made as last year. The Commodity Credit Corporation is paying all the storage charges this year and the insurance; under the 1943 plan, the handlers stored the wool without charge to the C.C.C. for a certain period.

The amount of wool handlers may purchase direct from growers has been increased from 1000 to 3000 pounds. Mills will be restricted in their direct purchase to wools produced within a 50-mile radius of their plants.

Wools grown in Virginia, Tennessee and Maryland will be covered in the 1944 plan. Last year those wools could be purchased direct by dealers. There are only sixteen "free" wool states now.

April Meat Quota

The amount of meat available for civilian consumption during April is set at 1,180,000 pounds by the Office of Price Administration, as against 1,266,000 pounds in March, reductions "reflecting the normal tapering off in production during the spring months."

National President on O.P.A. Advisory Committee

THE appointment of G. N. Winder of Craig, Colorado, president of the National Wool Growers Association, to a 15-member National Meat Industry Advisory Committee was announced on March 28, by the Office of Price Administration. This advisory committee will serve as a Board of Directors on meat rationing problems. It will offer suggestions to the O.P.A. for improvement in rationing methods and will discuss any changes offered by the O.P.A. officials having a bearing on the meat industry, the announcement stated.

This committee is one of many industry committees that are being set up under the direction of Chester Bowles, present Administrator of the O.P.A., in an effort to bring industry and that agency into closer relationship.

Gas Coupons

THERE has been some confusion concerning procedures now governing "R" coupons exchanged for non-highway gasoline. There is one simple way to avoid any possible confusion. Filling stations, now authorized to accept "R" coupons, still may accept them for non-highway gas. If your dealer is so authorized, you may continue to surrender "R" coupons to him and get gas. Other stations cannot accept "R" coupons for non-highway gas. But any filling station can accept "E" coupons. Send by mail or take the "R" coupons you have, each good for five gallons of gas, to your local rationing board, and exchange these for "E" coupons. Then, with "E" coupons, you can buy at any filling station. If you want to trade at several stations, or your dealer has not been authorized to accept "R" coupons for gas, that one simple step of exchanging "R" coupons for the "E's," will clear the way totally and finally. It's all a move to stop black market gas, get a more adequate, even distribution to those who need it, beat the gas bootlegger. Exchange those "R" coupons for "E" coupons, and you can get your allotted gas at any station where you want to trade. That's the simple, direct, easy move to make.

Regional Information,
Division, O.P.A.,
Denver, Colorado.

The National Wool Grower

Congressional Hearings on Wool

ON March 10, the subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture opened its hearings on the wool situation. That subcommittee, appointed following the general hearings on wool held by the full Committee on Agriculture on February 14, is composed of Congressmen Granger of Utah (chairman), Rizley of Oklahoma, Hill of Colorado, Zimmerman of Missouri, and Voorhis of California. Congressman Granger of Utah was largely responsible for the creation of the committee, and he and Congressmen Rizley and Hill have attended all of its sessions. Congressman Barrett of Wyoming and Fisher of Texas have also sat in at most of the committee hearings while Congressman Engle of California has been present at some of them.

While J. B. Wilson, secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers and chairman of the National Wool Growers Association Legislative Committee, was the first witness called, he was asked to suspend in order to give Mr. Alexander Johnston, the newly appointed chief of the Wool Division of the Livestock and Meat Branch of the War Food Distribution Administration, the opportunity to appear and explain the shrinkage work being done under his direction by the Department of Agriculture. Apparently very favorably impressed by this work that Mr. Johnston is doing, the committee members asked him a good many questions, and when he had finished answering them, it was too late to proceed further. Therefore, the committee adjourned to meet again on Thursday, March 16.

The first witness to be called on March 16 was Mr. Durham Jones, chief wool appraiser for the Commodity Credit Corporation. The methods used in appraising the 1943 wools purchased by the C.C.C. were explained by Mr. Jones, who said that improvement in the appraisal of the 1944 clip was expected unless he was further handicapped by the lack of manpower. The committee asked Mr. Jones a number of questions and apparently were well satisfied with the work he is doing which most growers will agree is excellent.

Mr. Jones was followed by Mr. Ray Willoughby of San Angelo, Texas, who

is a large sheep breeder, having something over 60,000 sheep at this time, is vice president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association, and also a member of the committee who worked out the plan for the handling of the 1943 clip. When the Government purchase plan was first announced and put into effect, Mr. Willoughby told the congressmen, there was a great deal of dissatisfaction in Texas but, after the plan was put into actual operation, the sentiment changed and today he thought nearly all the growers were heartily in favor of it. Mr. Willoughby made an excellent witness and a good impression on the committee.

Mr. W. P. Wing, secretary of the California Wool Growers Association, and Fred T. Earwood of Sonora, Texas, also made excellent statements before the committee. Mr. Earwood is vice president of the National Wool Growers Association and raises both sheep and goats, being one of the leading goat breeders of this country.

At the afternoon session on March 16, Mr. Kenneth W. Marriner, who is Chief of the Wool, Cordage, and Textile Section of the War Production Board, was on the stand. Mr. Marriner proved to be an expert in parrying questions of the committee without giving the direct answers which the committee expected. Those in attendance at the hearings were impressed by the apparent unwillingness of some of the Government witnesses to be frank and also, of course, by their unwillingness to discuss the policy of any other governmental department even though it affected vitally the products they were handling.

Mr. Marriner stated that it was not necessarily more profitable for top-makers to operate in foreign wool at present ceiling prices than in domestic wool. "The profit in a business," he said, "is what your competitors make you sell for." Later, however, Mr. Marriner stated that tops could be produced from foreign wool at a slightly lower cost than from domestic wool because there was less waste, but that this lower price was passed along to the spinner, and that wool tops were selling at many cents below the ceiling at present

and have sold at such levels since the ceilings were imposed.

Great stress was laid by Mr. Marriner on the responsibility of the War Production Board to see to it that the American consumer could buy clothing at the lowest possible price and that so long as domestic wool was priced above the level of foreign wool the latter would be favored by the trade.

"I do not disagree," said Mr. Marriner in replying to questioning, "that the wool grower should be protected. If he needs protection, he should be given a subsidy, but whatever is done, domestic wool should be placed so that it will sell." Mr. Marriner stated that now is the best time to dispose of the stocks of both foreign and domestic wool while the demand is good.

The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is going to get 25 per cent of this country's mill capacity this year, Mr. Marriner told the committee, while the military will probably take 35 per cent, which will leave about 40 per cent of the capacity for civilians. When discussing the reluctance of the U.N.R.R.A. to use domestic wool, Mr. Marriner said, "As far as I can understand, any price is too much for them."

When Mr. Marriner was questioned relative to the cost of producing, he said of course he did not know what the wool grower's operating cost was but that he was interested in a very substantial way in the poultry business and that not too long ago eggs were selling for 60 cents a dozen whereas they were now selling for 36 cents a dozen, which was below the cost of production. Without giving any specific example, Mr. Marriner indicated that when they refigured their cost of production, taking a little off here and a little off there, poultry producers found out they were not as badly off as they thought they were.

Mr. Marriner, of course, being an executive and reported to draw a salary in six figures, may be able, in the poultry business, to adjust his cost of production by refiguring, but in the wool industry we use only actual costs in figuring our cost of production and no amount of refiguring will lower it. It

just is not possible to juggle figures to lower or increase the cost of production.

Occupying the stand all afternoon, Mr. Marriner was asked a great many questions on which the committee sincerely wanted information, but in most questions he failed to make a direct answer. Of course, Mr. Marriner's contention is that the price of domestic wool should be reduced to meet the competition of foreign wool, which we believe would mean a reduction of approximately 18 cents a pound, clean basis, on fine wool, with proportionate reductions on other grades of wool.

The committee met again at 10 a.m. Friday, March 17, with Mr. George H. Hill, vice president of the Defense Supplies Corporation, as the first witness. He stated that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation had decided that the auction method should be used in disposing of the stockpile wools rather than the negotiated sale methods through regular trade channels as recommended by the wool industry Advisory Committee for two reasons:

(1) As spot wool, the stockpile wool would enjoy a price advantage over foreign wool yet to be imported and the Defense Supplies Corporation is entitled to what the stockpile wool will bring over the upset price.

(2) The auction sale would give all classes of buyers an opportunity to buy as much of all classes of wool as they desired, whereas the Defense Supplies Corporation was fearful that the negotiated method of sale would allow dealers to let their best customers pick the wools they wanted from the stockpile, leaving the little fellow out.

Mr. Hill testified that on the sales thus far they had realized about 3 per cent above the upset price, that price being the cost of importing wools of similar types and description.

As has been previously pointed out, the Advisory Committee of the Defense Supplies Corporation is of the opinion that, if the wools were catalogued and sold at private treaty through the regular channels of trade, the upset price could have been set at 5 per cent above the imported cost of such wools, and the wools would have brought more money than at auction.

Mr. Hill indicated that he believed the Advisory Committee had been notified of the decision of the Defense Supplies Corporation to sell the stockpile wool at auction rather than at private treaty.

On that point Mr. Hill had evidently been misinformed.

The day following the meeting of the Advisory Committee on February 7 Mr. Winder, president of the National Wool Growers Association, and your legislative representative, both of whom attended that meeting, called on some Senators asking them to try and help us to have all the Government-owned wool turned over to one agency to be disposed of in an orderly manner. The matter was taken up by one of the Senators with Mr. W. L. Clayton, and after he had talked with Mr. Clayton, the Senator told us, much to our surprise, that they were going ahead with the auction sales despite the advice of the Advisory Committee and that the first auction sale would be held on February 17. The Senator had supposed, of course, that we knew this auction sale was going to be held, but it was through him that we received our first information about it.

We immediately called up another member of the Advisory Committee and told him that it had been decided to sell about 30 million pounds of wool at auction on February 17. This was the first notice that he had had, and it also was the first notice that the other members of the Advisory Committee had received.

Following Mr. Hill, the Committee called Lawrence Myers, chief of the Crop Section of the C.C.C., who has been in charge of the wool purchase program. Pointing out that the wool had been purchased at the request of the growers, Mr. Myers said he felt that, generally speaking, the plan had worked well. Questioned about the proposal made by the handlers to increase their charges one-quarter cent a pound, Mr. Myers said that that matter was under consideration. When the program was put into effect last year, he said, the compensation paid the handlers was largely a matter of guess work because one third of the clip had been already purchased by many of the dealers who later handled the rest of the clip for the C.C.C. If their cost had increased, Mr. Myers further stated, it might be necessary to allow them the quarter cent a pound added charge.

Chairman Granger pointed out that the growers were unable to get higher prices for their wool and that both the growers and Congress would look with

disfavor upon any increase in handling charges.

J. B. Wilson, Chairman

Legislative Committee.

More On Wool Hearing

ON March 20 Captain William A. Best, officer in charge of the Clothing Division, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, testified before Congressman Granger's committee. Referring to an inquiry made by Senator O'Mahoney on August 5, 1943, regarding the Navy's use of domestic wool, Captain Best said that the Navy Department was in full agreement with the necessity of extending preference to domestic wool and would utilize it whenever it was feasible to do so without seriously affecting the quality of materials desired. A particular grade and texture of wool is necessary, he said, in the making of some uniforms for the Navy. Captain Best also told the committee that current contracts would take care of Navy requirements through a substantial part of 1944.

Lieutenant Charles Harding, Jr., who accompanied Captain Best, reported that the Navy had asked that domestic wool be used as far as possible in their contracts and that they intended to continue these requests.

Restriction of Importations

Mr. Edward Browning, Jr., assistant director of the Division of Stockpile and Transportation, War Production Board, in charge of the issuance of import licenses under M-63, made it very clear that his department could in no way restrict the importation of wool if shipping space were available. He said that his division was interested primarily in strategic things needed for the war effort, and that if shipping space were available for other than strategic commodities, a permit for their importation could not be refused.

"As for wool from Australia," Mr. Browning said, "There is such a plethora of shipping space that we have no reason not to license it freely." Wool from Australia is being used as ballast for the ships, he said. Mr. Browning also told the committee that Government agencies, such as the Foreign Economic Administration which brought in the wool from Iceland, can bring in any commodity without a permit.

Use of Wool by Marines

Colonel Charles R. Sanderson, Procurement Division, U. S. Marine Corps, made a very clear and frank statement of the position of that division of the armed forces regarding the use of wool. The Marines, he said, had not used much wool because they were committed to fight in the Southwest Pacific. He said that when the wool situation was "tight" they had gone to the Secretary of the Navy to get authorization to use any type of wool. Their contracts had called for 50 per cent domestic and 50 per cent foreign, or 80 per cent domestic and 20 per cent foreign. When asked about the cost of materials, Colonel Sanderson said that that was not the reason for using foreign wool. He cited as an example the fact that the American Woolen Company was using all foreign wool and that their fabrics were the most expensive that the Marine Corps purchase. While the question of the use of domestic wool had not come to the attention of the Procurement Division of the Marine Corps of late, Colonel Sanderson assured the committee that they would look into the matter and attempt to make greater use of it. The Marines, however, will require only about 50 per cent as much wool in 1944 as was used in 1943, or about 7,812,000 scoured pounds.

Mr. S. H. Scheuer, executive director, Bureau of Supplies, Foreign Economic Administration, revealed some interesting information. The Foreign Economic Administration negotiated last year to reduce the British issue price of wool because, as Mr. Scheuer explained, industry, O.P.A. and the W.P.B. represented to his agency that the new price of British wool was 6.5 per cent too high to fit into the present ceilings. They did not want to change the ceilings so the price of the wool was reduced.

Mr. Scheuer's testimony revealed that the F.E.A. bought the carryover of the 1941-42 Uruguayan clip, amounting to about 30 million grease pounds, and that they underwrote the unsold portion of the 1942-43 clip—about 10 million pounds was purchased. It was reported that approximately 15 million pounds is still in Uruguay and 18 million pounds stored here, of which about 8 million pounds has been sold with no loss. There are no plans to buy the 1943-44 Uruguayan clip, according to Mr. Scheuer.

It was brought out in the hearings that the Icelandic clip was purchased in consideration of "economic problems that were generated by their making their country accessible to us." The F.E.A., through the United States Commercial Corporation, purchased 2½ million pounds at 60 cents per grease pound f.o.b. Iceland and paid the freight of 4 cents per pound. The wool was reported to be of mostly carpet class and worth about 48 cents per pound in this country. This purchase was made in May, 1943, for "political reasons." About half of this wool has been sold.

This means that there are three agencies buying wool; the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Defense Supplies Corporation, and the United States Commercial Corporation. They are all selling a competing product and disposing of it in a manner of their own choosing.

National Wool Growers' Representatives

Mr. J. B. Wilson, chairman of the Legislative Committee, in commenting on the purchase of the Icelandic wool by the Foreign Economic Administration, stated that it might be more profitable from the grower's standpoint to encourage the F.E.A. to purchase the domestic clip.

He told the committee that it was his hope that the British Government would increase the issue price of the Dominion wool when that matter comes up for consideration on June 30 this year.

Mr. Wilson, referring to Kenneth Marriner's statement that "it was slightly more profitable to comb top out of foreign wool," said that under existing O.P.A. ceilings, it is considerably more profitable to comb foreign wool than domestic. He also stated that if Mr. Marriner had been entirely frank, he would also have said that a mill which combs its own wool—sorts it, scours it, combs and spins it into yarn and weaves it into cloth—can usually comb that wool into tops for about ten cents per clean pound less than the top maker.

In commenting upon the testimony of Mr. George H. Hill, vice president of the Defense Supplies Corporation, relative to notification of the members of the Advisory Committee upon the

D.S.C.'s decision to sell the stockpile wool at auction, Mr. Wilson said that he was sure Mr. Hill mis-spoke himself. Mr. Wilson told the committee that the growers had not been consulted and they were not consulted regarding the purchase and shipment of the 7 million pounds of mohair.

The history of the creation of the stockpile was reviewed by Mr. Wilson. He made it clear that he was not objecting to the disposal of it at this time but to the manner in which it was being handled. He stated that, in the opinion of the D.S.C.'s Advisory Committee, the wool should have been catalogued and sold at private treaty. Under this method of sale, brokerage would be charged to the mills, Mr. Wilson said, and the price would probably have been 5 per cent above the importing cost whereas the auctions thus far have netted only 2 per cent above the imported cost of the Australian wool sold.

Mr. Wilson said that it was mostly the large manufacturers, top-makers and dealers acting as brokers who bought the wool at the auction sales. The committee was told by Mr. Wilson that costs in the sheep industry had advanced 50 per cent since 1941 and that there was no such thing as an average price of wool; also that he had never been satisfied that the figure, 37.1 cents per pound as used by the O.P.A. in setting the ceiling prices, was in accordance with the law. Mr. Wilson also recommended that all restrictions on the domestic use of wool should be removed.

The Secretary of the National Association discussed the present situation of the sheep industry as a whole; the effect of ceilings and other Government regulations upon it; the apparent causes of the heavy liquidation of sheep and lambs that took place last year, and the outlook for 1944.

F. Eugene Ackerman Is Witness

F. Eugene Ackerman, executive director of the American Wool Council, was the final witness at the hearings of the subcommittee on wool of the House Agricultural Committee. Mr. Ackerman analyzed the basic importance of the wool growing and wool textile industries in our peace and war time economies. He emphasized the position which wool occupies as an agricultural product and its importance as

an industrial raw material. All-wool and part-wool textiles have an average annual value in excess of \$500,000,000.00 and provide employment for more than 250,000 workers. The estimated retail values of all-wool and part-wool garments he placed at between \$3,000,000,000.00 and \$4,000,000,000.00.

Mr. Ackerman criticized the action of the Textile, Clothing and Leather Section of the War Production Board in maintaining restrictions on the amount of yardage and the styles which may be used in men's, women's, and children's clothing. He told the committee that in Great Britain where manpower, machinery, and textile shortages are far greater than those existing in the United States, these restrictions on garments have been lifted. The clothing restrictions in the United States, he added, were never necessary as a conservation measure. At the present time, he declared, they are inflationary in that unserviceable clothing requires more renewals than more serviceable clothing. He added further that restrictions are having a serious effect on styles in the United States at a time when this country had an opportunity, which might never recur, of achieving dominance as fashionists in the men's and women's clothing industry. Fashion dominance, he explained, has great dollar-and-cents value because it stimulates production and in normal peacetime increases buying by the public.

Discussing the testimony of Lt. Harding that the United States Navy would be able to use only about 10 per cent of domestic wool during this and the coming year because it is unable to find an adequate supply of sufficiently fine American wool, the witness declared that Lt. Harding was in complete error. Mr. Ackerman declared that the 60s and 70s qualities of domestic wool which comprise the greater part of our production are ideally suited for the manufacture of the Navy uniform flannels and that our domestic wools are adequately suited for the Navy melton overcoating.

The argument that the United States Navy is obliged to use foreign wools in its uniforms meant that the Navy should revise its specifications, he declared. He inquired as to what the Navy would do if its supplies of foreign wools were curtailed. The difference between domestic fine wool and Australian fine wool, he added, is an al-

most impalpable difference in "feel," and only experts can detect it.

While expressing admiration for the Navy's adherence to fine old traditions, the witness declared that they were established at a time when the Navy was a small peacetime body and they are not practical in a critical period with a navy comprising 3,000,000 men.

Mr. Ackerman dwelt at some length on the program of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. He called attention to the fact that it has asked for 25 per cent of our domestic wool textile production for relief fabrics. The specifications for these fabrics, he declared, are of low character, using a minimum of wool, and it is the expressed policy of U.N.R.R.A. to use only foreign wool. Mr. Ackerman urged that before appropriations of U.N.R.R.A. are granted, members of Congress from the wool growing states should insist—first, that the wool content of the fabrics be increased; and second, that this wool content be of domestic origin.

Mr. Ackerman declared that if the Navy followed the practice of the Army and used domestic wool it would provide a market for approximately 300,000,000 grease pounds of wool at the present rate of consumption. If, in ad-

dition, he declared, it was obligatory on U.N.R.R.A. to use domestic wool only, these demands combined would be sufficient to use practically the entire domestic clip.

Statement by Tariff Commission

Dr. Louis G. Connor, chief statistician of the United States Tariff Commission, presented tables showing wool imports and other statistical information. He stated that in his opinion, if the domestic wool now on hand was sold within the next 12 months, a loss of about sixteen million dollars would be borne by the Government, but if it were held for three years, that loss would amount to fifty million dollars.

The committee asked Dr. Connor to submit the cost of producing wool for 1943 and project the 1944 costs. While agreeing to do this as soon as possible, Dr. Connor felt that it would be about three months before the study could be completed.

Inasmuch as the Congress is taking an Easter recess, the hearings will not be continued until after April 12, at which time it is expected that the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) and the State Department will be asked to testify.

J. M. J.

Restriction On Farm Slaughtering

THE week of March 20, the War Food Administration issued amendment 12 to F.D.O 75, under which limitations on the farm slaughter of hogs were suspended indefinitely. The first suspension of these restrictions was made on November 17, 1943, for a three-month period and then the suspension was extended to March 17. In explanation of what this suspension of restrictions of hog slaughter means to the producer, the Regional Information Division of the Office of Price Administration in Denver, Colorado, says:

There are now no restrictions on the amount of slaughter by a livestock producer of hogs if he butchers the hogs himself for his own family use. He can butcher all the hogs he needs for his family provided he really has grown them. If he has his hogs slaughtered by a slaughter house there are three certificates for him to sign when he receives his meat. The custom slaughterer will show him how to fill out the certificate.

A copy of this certificate is sent by the custom slaughterer to the local board. If the producer has certified that he and his family will use all of the meat, that is all that has to be done. It is not necessary to give out ration points to receive the meat from the slaughterer.

If meat, either butchered by the livestock producer or by the custom slaughterer, is sold or transferred, the livestock producer must collect ration points and send them to the local War Price and Rationing Board along with a report within fifteen days after the end of the calendar month in which the sales or transfers were made. The collection of ration points for pork sold by producers has not been discontinued as some seem to think. Only the requirement of having a permit and quota for slaughtering hogs from the Feed Distribution Administration has been discontinued. The butchering of other animals, beef, veal or lamb for instance, follows the former procedure and requires a permit secured through the County War Meat Board before the animals are slaughtered. If a livestock producer holds a permit issued by the County War Meat Board he may slaughter animals to the extent of his quota.



Clarence L. Forsling (fourth from left, standing) as he appeared at a hearing before the Senate Public Lands Committee to qualify for Senate confirmation of his appointment by President Roosevelt to the position of Director of Grazing in the Department of the Interior. Mr. Forsling was nominated to succeed Richard H. Rutledge, who, although resigning because of ill health, is being retained by Secretary Ickes as special adviser on grazing.

Those attending the hearing include, left to right, seated: Senators E. V. Robertson, Wyoming; J. Thomas, Idaho; E. D. Milliken, Colorado; J. C. O'Mahoney, Wyoming, and J. C. Johnson, Colorado. (Senator McCarren of Nevada was also in attendance although not shown in the picture.)

Left to right, standing: Oscar Chapman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior; J. M. Jones, Secretary of the National Wool Growers Association; M. A. Smith, sheepman of Utah and Colorado; Mr. Forsling; William B. Wright, Deeth, Nevada, Vice President of the American National Livestock Association; J. Nason, South Dakota; A. A. Smith, Sterling, Colorado, Second Vice President of the American National; F. J. Mollin, Secretary of the American National; and A. D. Bromfield, President of the American National. Photo, courtesy Department of Interior.

Rutledge Resigns; Forsling Probable Successor

R. H. Rutledge resigned on March 20 as Director of Grazing, Department of Interior, and Clarence L. Forsling, now assistant chief of the Forest Service in Washington, D. C., is slated to succeed him. His appointment has been approved by the President of the United States and is now awaiting confirmation by the Senate. Mr. Rutledge, who has been in ill health the past winter, will serve as a special adviser to the Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. Rutledge and Mr. Forsling are both western men. A native son of Idaho, Mr. Rutledge has been connected with the administration of national forest and public domain resources of the country for forty years. He entered the Forest Service as a ranger on the Payette Forest and advanced steadily to become district forester at Ogden, Utah, in 1920, a position he held until his appointment as Director of Grazing in the Interior Department in 1938.

Mr. Forsling was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, November 7, 1893. He has

been assistant chief of the Forest Service since 1937 in charge of research work on range use, forest management and related subjects. Prior to his Washington appointment, Mr. Forsling conducted range and watershed work in the intermountain forest region which is made up of Utah, Idaho, Nevada and western Wyoming. Having formed a close relationship with the range stockmen through his earlier work in the West, Mr. Forsling should prove an admirable successor to Mr. Rutledge, whose comprehension of the range stockmen's problems has made his administration of the grazing resources of the public domain an excellent and highly appreciated one.

Basque Sheep Herders

SHEEPMEN interested in securing Basque sheep herders should contact J. B. Dangberg, president of the Nevada Range Sheep Owners Association, Box 67, Minden, Nevada, or D. A. Hughes, secretary of the Eastern Nevada Woolgrowers Association at Ely, Nevada.

The Nevada Range Sheep Owners Association, organized last year pri-

marily for the purpose of importing Basque herders from Spain, made application a year ago for 75 of these men. As a result of the liquidation of Nevada flocks last year, transportation charges have been paid for only 30 of the 75 men who are now ready to come to the United States. The items of expense covering the importation of these herders are listed as: \$428 steamship fare, which, it is understood, will be worked out by the herders; \$50 to cover incidental costs such as Spanish and United States taxes; rail fare from New Orleans to the ranch where the herder is to be employed; also a \$500 bond on each man imported, guaranteeing that he will be returned to Spain if the United States Government so requests, must be taken out by the importer.

Mr. Hughes contemplates making a trip to Mexico for the purpose of recruiting Basque herders. Transportation charges of from \$100 to \$200, depending on where the herder is located, must be advanced and the bond of \$500 per man furnished by the sheepman wishing to secure one or more of these herders. He also will be asked to assume his proportionate share of the expense involved in the recruitment of these men.

Mexican Nationals have already arrived in many states to assist at lambing time and in general livestock work. The Montana Association reports this class of labor as being very satisfactory, and that they also are planning to use the Mexican Nationals for herding.

Supreme Court Ruling on O. P. A.

THE Supreme Court, on Monday.

March 27, upheld the constitutionality of the Emergency Price Control Act by a 6-3 decision, affirming the conviction of two Boston meat dealers on charges of violating beef price regulations. The majority opinion was written by Chief Justice Harlan Fiske Stone, who said that the control laws provide sufficient procedural safeguard for aggrieved persons and that "we are unable to find in them an unauthorized delegation of legislative power." Separate dissenting opinions were written by Justice Owen A. Roberts and Justice Riley Rutledge with Justice Frank Murphy concurring in the latter's opinion.

Attitude of the National Misrepresented

By J. B. Wilson, Chairman,
N. W. G. A. Legislative Committee

THERE is either much misunderstanding about the attitude of the National Wool Growers Association on the disposition of the stockpile wools, or their attitude has been grossly misrepresented.

Representatives of the National Wool Growers Association, including the President, Mr. Winder, and the Chairman of your Legislative Committee, met with the Defense Supplies Corporation on February 7, together with representatives of the wool trade, brokers, and manufacturers, as members of an Advisory Committee to the Defense Supplies Corporation.

As soon as the meeting got started, Mr. Pendleton, president of the American Woolen Company, asked Mr. Clayton, then the president of the Defense Supplies Corporation, whether or not it had been definitely decided to sell the stockpile wools. Mr. Clayton replied that it had been definitely decided to sell the wools, whereupon Mr. Pendleton stated that there was no use arguing about that and that he had some definite recommendations as to the method of selling the wool. Mr. Pendleton thereupon recommended that all of the wools in the hands of the Defense Supplies Corporation be catalogued, giving a full description of the wools, the location at which they would be sold, and suggested that the Government put an upset price on these wools equal to the imported cost and let anyone in the wool trade sell the wools.

Mr. Clayton pointed out that they had been able to get more for the wools they had sold than the imported cost, Mr. Pendleton then suggested that, because these wools were spot wools, the manufacturers would probably be willing to pay 3 per cent above the present imported cost and suggested that the floor price or upset price of wool be 3 per cent above the present imported cost of such wools. There was some further discussion and it was suggested that, because these wools were spot wools, if they were catalogued and sold through the regular channels of trade, they could probably put an upset price

of 5 per cent above the imported cost. Mr. Clayton advised that they thought perhaps the best way to forestall any criticism was to sell the wools at auction, but they had not definitely made up their minds, and suggested that the Committee come back after lunch and discuss the matter further.

During the discussion, Mr. Winder, president of the National Wool Growers Association, stated that it was the position of the growers that all of the wools owned by the Government should be handled by one agency, and suggested that the wools be turned over to the Commodity Credit Corporation for sale. He made this suggestion twice.

There never was at any time during the discussion any intimation by the representatives of the growers that they objected to the sale of the stockpile wools. The attention of the Government representatives at the conference was called to the fact that, when the stockpile was originally created, we were assured that these wools would never be used except in case of extreme necessity and for defense, and we maintained that they were not being used for defense purposes, nor was this a case of extreme necessity because there was a large surplus of wool in this country.

The only difference of opinion between the Defense Supplies Corporation and the representatives of the growers was that the representatives of the growers agreed with the representatives of the wool trade and the manufacturers that it would be better to sell these wools at private treaty at 5 per cent above the issue price than it would be to sell them at auction. Of course, no one can tell whether or not at private treaty they would have sold as much of the wool as they have at auctions, but we can be sure that if the wool had been sold, it would have been sold at a price higher than the auctions have brought for the Australian wool.

While the South American wools had a ready sale, the sale of the Australian wools was much slower, and if we are correctly advised, despite the fairly

heavy withdrawals of Australian wools sold at the two auctions heretofore held, they were sold at a price approximately 2 per cent above the importing cost of the wools, whereas our suggestion was that they be sold at 5 per cent above the imported cost of the wools.

We have seen no reason to change our stand on this matter, and we hope that the Defense Supplies Corporation may consider the sale of these wools at private treaty with an upset price of 5 per cent above the importing cost; and, of course, if the wools do not sell in sufficient volume, they can then revert to the auction system. However, there does not seem to be any tendency on the part of the Defense Supplies Corporation to give much heed to the advice of its Advisory Committee.

After the conference with the Defense Supplies Corporation, Congressman Barrett of Wyoming called in a number of Congressmen, and it was again made plain that the growers were not objecting to the sale of the stockpile wools, but that they believed all the government-owned wools should be placed in the hands of the C.C.C. for sale. We discussed this further at a subsequent meeting of the D.S.C. Advisory Committee, and Mr. Winder discussed it before a hearing of the House Agricultural Committee, at which hearing Mr. Winder pointed out that present ceiling prices on wool did not meet the cost of production and that, with the present ceiling prices on domestic wool, it was an invitation to import wool which could be sold at a considerably lower price.

He suggested that representations should be made to the British Government, urging them to increase the issue price of the British-owned wools to a point that would be comparable or nearly comparable to the ceiling price on domestic wool.

He suggested that the existing Government-owned stockpiles consisting of the Defense Supplies stockpile, as well as the 1943 surplus of domestic wool and the 1944 domestic clip, be sold as one lot so that the foreign and domestic

stockpiles would move into consumption on about the same basis.

He suggested that, after the C.C.C. had taken control of the foreign stockpile, they call in representatives of manufacturers, growers, dealers, and others interested to work out a price basis and a plan of sales.

He suggested that imports be curtailed or restricted so long as there were comparable wools available either in the domestic or the Defense Supplies stockpile.

He suggested that the War Production Board should rescind all restrictions upon styles and types of woolen garments.

He also suggested that the U.N.R.R.A. should not only use more wool in the fabrics they would purchase but they should use domestic wool in such fabrics.

We realize that so long as Defense Supplies Corporation continues the sale of their stockpile wools, it will tend to restrict imports, but, of course, just as soon as the stockpile is disposed of, unless there is some regulation to restrict imports, imports of wool will again flood in, and it will mean that the C.C.C. will have a large stockpile of domestic wool on their hands.

We still believe that our suggestion that the Defense Supplies Corporation wool be turned over to the C.C.C. at a nominal profit would have been far the best way of handling this situation. If that had been done, the C.C.C. would have been able to push the domestic wool into consumption.

Let me repeat—there has been no objection to the sale of the stockpile by the growers' representatives. They have objected to the methods of selling. They believe that, in accordance with the resolutions of the National Wool Growers Association, all of the stockpile wools, whether domestic or foreign, should be in the hands of one agency for sale.

We have called the attention of the officials here to the promise made at the time the stockpile was created to which we have previously referred. The representatives of the National Wool Growers Association are the only ones, so far as I know, that are working on the proposition of having the wool all handled by one agency, working to find a way, if possible, to restrict imports, working to have the British issue price increased and working to have the U.N.R.R.A. use not only more wool, but to use domestic wool

If anyone has a better solution than the ones we have suggested, you may be sure that it will receive consideration. Those of us who represent the National do not feel that we have a monopoly on ideas, and we will welcome any suggestions relative to the handling of this wool situation that may occur to the members of the Association. We are merely trying—to the best of our ability—to carry out the recommendations of the Association as expressed in its resolutions, and any statement to the contrary is untrue.

Livestock Group Endorses Price Control

EXTENSION of the price control act for one year from June 30, 1944, with certain specific changes, was endorsed by the Joint Livestock Committee, meeting in Chicago on March 25.

Set up in 1942 to provide opportunity for livestock groups to consider and act upon their mutual problems, this Committee includes a number of members from the western states. The National Wool Growers Association has attended a number of its meetings, although not represented on March 25, and the American National Livestock Association is a very active member. Members from 20 states, representing 130 farmer-producer organizations, attended the March 25 meeting, according to the release issued by the Committee's secretary, P. O. Wilson. They appointed a committee of five to present their views, as set up in the resolutions printed below, to Congressional committees holding hearings on the extension of the O.P.A., and allied legislation.

Government by Law—Not Regulation:

We recommend that the Act of Congress extending the policy of price control and management set up definite standards and policies that must be followed by all government agencies authorized to carry out the purposes of the Act, so that we may again live under a system of laws enacted by Congress rather than regulations and directives issued by individuals.

Anti-Subsidy:

Live stock producers are fully aware of the disastrous results of inflation. We are anxious to avoid all influences that lead to general inflation. We recommend that a reasonable price management program be authorized by the Congress. We believe that the system of rollbacks in prices and consumer subsidy payments is not only not anti-inflationary but that it is in itself an inflationary policy in that it adds to an already excessive purchasing power and increases the public debt. We are unalterably opposed to all subsidy payments affecting

the livestock and meat industry and we urge that prices be stabilized in accordance with the standards established in Clause 2 of Section 3 of the Act of October 2, 1942.

Food Controls Under One Department:

As American citizens, we deplore the development of a policy in our Government whereby the executive department of the Government has, by decree or directive, created or established agencies or bureaus with powers delegated to them that are superior to the powers and functions of those agencies which have been created by Act of Congress.

We recommend that the Congress of the United States create one single and distinct agency to which will be granted, in the creative Act, all responsibility concerning the administration of the war-time food management and control program that is to be adopted by the Congress, and

We recommend that this creative Act clearly outline the powers and functions to be given to this agency so that there will be no conflict with the powers and functions of other agencies and so that none of its powers or responsibilities can be taken from it by executive order.

Court Review:

We recommend that the Congress, in extending the policy of price management and control, provide for the use of regular courts and regular procedures by any person who may feel that he has a just cause for complaint in a matter involving the administration of the Act, and we recommend that all federal district courts be given jurisdiction to hear such complaints so that the person will not have to incur the great expense and trouble of submitting his cause to a bureaucratic court situated in Washington.

Definition of "Agricultural Commodities":

We recommend that, by Act of Congress, a clear and understandable definition be made of what is intended by the terms "agricultural commodities," "agricultural products," and "products derived in whole or substantial part from the processing of agricultural products," so that the definition will be comprehensive enough to include livestock, meat, and products derived from livestock and meat.

McKellar Amendment:

We recommend that the Act extending the policy of price control and management be so written by the Congress that it shall contain no language which would be discriminatory either in favor of or against any segment of the industry, and

We recommend that this Act provide that the agency, in fixing price ceilings, shall not attempt to guarantee profits to any part of the industry, it being our opinion that intelligently managed retail price ceilings and proper rationing will serve the purpose to get proper production and distribution.

Extension of O.P.A.:

Conditioned upon the incorporation in the extending Act of the modifications we are recommending to the Congress by these resolutions, we support the extension of the policy of price control and management for a period of not to exceed one year from June 30, 1944.

Abortion in Sheep

Montana Veterinary Research Laboratory

This article was clipped from the April issue of the *Montana Wool Grower*, which has been running a series of articles on lamb diseases by Doctors Marsh and Tunnicliff of the Montana Veterinary Research Laboratory, Bozeman, Montana. The Montana Agricultural Experiment Station has issued several circulars covering the results of work done in lamb diseases at the research laboratory as a wartime service to farmers and ranchers of Montana.

LOSSES of lambs by abortion, or slinking, are not large on the average, but occasionally sheepmen report heavy losses by abortion, amounting to 10 to 25 per cent of the number of ewes in the band. In addition to the lamb loss, there is always some death loss in the ewes.

It has been found that in Montana nearly all such outbreaks of abortion which have been investigated are caused by infection with a specific bacterium which is technically known as a *Vibrio*. This infection is of an entirely different nature than the infectious abortion of cattle, which is so well known as Bang's disease. We have never found Bang's disease in Montana sheep.

Starts Month Before Lambing

When an outbreak of abortion in sheep occurs, it usually starts about one month before lambing is due to begin. When the first slink occurs, the owner thinks it is accidental, and of no particular importance, as one must expect one or two abortions in the normal course of events. But in a day or two another lamb is aborted, and then two or three in one day. This may go on, with several abortions nearly every day until in some cases as many as 300 lambs are lost in a band of ewes. After lambing begins, the number of abortions usually tapers off. Some full-time lambs are born dead or so weak that they soon die.

The ewes usually have a dirty-appearing discharge for about one week after aborting, and a small percentage of the

ewes die as a result of the infection in the uterus.

This disease has been quite thoroughly investigated in England, and has also been studied for several years in Montana, but as yet we are not able to definitely control the disease. However, we do know some things about it on which we can base advice which may help to prevent some of the abortions.

Infection Not Carried Over

In the first place, we have quite conclusive evidence that the infection is not carried from one season to the next in the ewes. We have never seen a ewe abort from this cause more than once, and we have a definite history on about 200 experiment station ewes which aborted and were carried through a second lambing season, with almost 100 per cent normal lambing, and with none of the infection appearing the second year. We have found that two or three ewes out of 100 may be permanently injured by the disease so that they will not produce a lamb the second year, but they do not carry the infection from one season to the next, and therefore cannot start a new outbreak.

Secondly, we have been unable to get evidence that the disease is spread by the rams, except possibly in very exceptional cases. One ram in England was found to be infected, and to carry the disease to ewes bred to him, but that is the only case on record.

Third, we know that a ewe can be infected by taking in the infectious material through the mouth. Our observations in many outbreaks indicate that water which is more or less stagnant, in sloughs, marshy places, shallow wells, partially drained ditches, and reservoirs, and in dirty troughs, may be the source of the infection. We have not been able to prove this experimentally, but the circumstantial evidence points that way.

Sanitation Best Prevention

As preventive measures, all we can advise at present are sanitary precautions. The principal points are clean corrals and feeding places in winter, and the provision of clean, fresh, running water as the only source of drinking water for pregnant ewes.

If the disease develops, sanitary precautions are again the principal means of control. All aborting ewes should

be immediately segregated from the drop band, and all aborted lambs and afterbirths should be disposed of by burning, burial, or placing them in some place isolated from the drop band. Although the ewes which abort pick up the infection at least three or four weeks before they abort, these precautions may protect some of those lambing late from becoming infected.

Ewes which abort and recover should not be sold, as they will be free from infection for the next year, and probably are less susceptible to infection than ewes which have never been through an outbreak.

Pacific Wool Growers Expand

PACIFIC Wool Growers, cooperative wool marketing agency of the Northwest, has recently completed arrangements for storage of wools in Pocatello and in Idaho Falls. Officials of the agency are also studying the possibilities of warehouse space in Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah.

The March issue of the *Bulletin of the Pacific Wool Growers* states that wool growers of western Texas, through their warehouses in the San Angelo district, have selected Pacific Wool Growers as their marketing agency to sell their wools in Boston. Some 4,693,000 pounds of choice Texas wools had been shipped to the Pacific Wool Growers' Boston warehouse, according to the announcement, for sale to mills in the New England and Middle Atlantic district for the account of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Hog Support Prices

After April 15 when the War Food Administration's temporary emergency support price program for 270 to 330-pound hogs will be terminated, those support prices will apply to only good and choice barrows or gilts weighing from 200 to 270 pounds. On December 23, 1943, the support price was extended to 270 to 300-pound hogs to encourage orderly marketing and to protect firms from heavy discounts prevailing for hogs weighing over 270 pounds. On January 27, 1944, the support was extended to hogs weighing from 300 to 330 pounds.

Ewe Sales in Montana

The April issue of the *Montana Wool Grower* reports the contracting of 2,250 blackface yearling ewes for June 20 delivery, out of the wool, \$14.50. For June 1 delivery 2,750 three and four-year-old whiteface ewes, lambing out with the wool on at \$13 a pair—\$6.50 for the dry ewes.

1943 Wool Shrinkage Studies in the Department of Agriculture

By

Alexander Johnston, Warner M. Buck,
and George C. LeCompte

Livestock and Meats Branch
Office of Distribution, War Food
Administration

FOR many years there has been considerable dissatisfaction among wool growers because of the inaccurate methods used by wool buyers in determining shrinkages. Buyers' estimates of shrinkage are based on their visual and manual examination of the fleeces in a lot and on their previous experience in judging shrinkages in wools of a similar character.

Consequently, a need has long been felt for a method of extraction and testing small samples of wool from large lots in such a manner as to represent accurately the shrinkage of the bulk of the wool. However, few large scale tests for wool shrinkage have been made because such experiments are very costly and involve much labor.

Much valuable information concerning shrinkages and grades of clips has been furnished to wool growers over a period of years by the state agricultural colleges and experiment stations of California, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. Yet the sampling methods of these institutions, whether they employ scouring of small hand samples or of selected bags from clips, are found to be laborious and, for the most part, of varying accuracy, though correct within relatively narrow limits. However, in general a laboratory test of shrinkage based upon representative samples is believed to be of more value than any estimate involving human judgment.

During the last three years the Wool Division of the Livestock and Meats Branch has been experimenting with a system of sampling grease wools employing the coring device. The coring machine had already been adopted, for sampling imported wools for shrinkage determination, by Dr. H. J. Wollner, Consulting Chemist, Bureau of Customs, U. S. Treasury Department. It has proved so successful that routine coring tests, except in unusual circumstances, are now the basis for the assessment of import duties on all foreign wools entering this country.

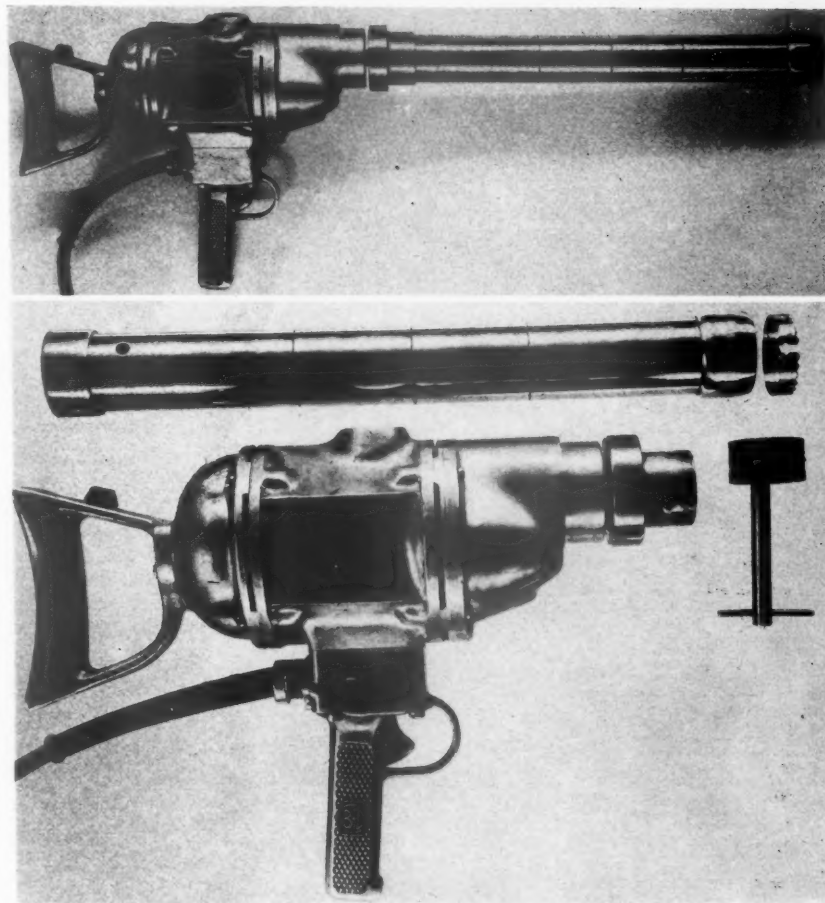


Figure 1. Above, assembled coring machine. Below, unassembled coring machine showing electric drill, core tube, cutting blade, and key used in inserting the collar which locks the cutting blades in place.

The device consists of an electric hand drill which rotates an attached cylinder 18 inches long and 2 inches wide. This cylinder is equipped with a serrated blade at the mouth which, when pressed against a compact bale or bag of wool, cuts a neat core that is held within the cylinder. The cylinder is then withdrawn from the bale or bag, detached from the drill, and the core of wool extracted. By this simple process any number of core samples can be taken at random in a comparatively short time from a lot of baled or bagged wool. By taking representative samples in this manner the bias of human judgment is entirely eliminated from the sampling process.

During 1941 and 1942 the Wool Division, because of inadequate facilities, was unable to make extensive tests of

this method on domestic wool, but after April 25, 1943, when the domestic clip was taken over by the Commodity Credit Corporation, the opportunity for extensive tests was utilized immediately. During 1943 core samples were taken from 100 individual clips and from a few graded lines. These clips totaled more than 3 million pounds and came from 13 major wool-growing states of the West. An average of 10 test bags was taken at random or at spaced intervals from each of these clips. Approximately 1,150 bags of wool were sampled and a total of more than 12,000 cores was taken. In the majority of cases 10 cores were taken at random or at spaced intervals from each bag. It was found necessary to compress the bags in a special machine before cor-

(Continued on page 19)

Table 1. 1943 Wool Shrinkage Results by Lot

Description of Wool	Lot Number	Number of Bags Tested	Actual Shrink-ages	Estimated Shrink-ages	Core Sample Shrinkages	Differences Between Core Sample Shrinkages And Actual Shrinkages	Differences Between Estimated Shrinkages And Actual Shrinkages
Graded Idaho Fine and Fine Medium	C-101	10	61.8	63	61.2	-0.6	+1.2
Graded Idaho 1/2 Blood, Combing	C-102	10	58.4	59	56.5	-1.9	+0.6
Graded Idaho 3/4 Blood, Combing	C-103	10	55.4	54	55.4	0.0	-1.4
Orig. Utah average to short French	C-104	10	51.2	49	54.7	+3.5	-2.2
Orig. Utah Clothing Semi-Fine	C-105	10	65.1	65	64.8	-0.3	-0.1
Orig. Utah Clothing Semi-Fine (Dupl)	C-106	10	68.2	62	64.8	-3.4	-6.2
Orig. Fine Utah avr. to Short French	C-106A	10	67.2	62	68.3	+1.1	-5.2
Original Kansas	C-107	10	70.5	63	69.5	-1.0	-7.5
Orig. Nebr. Fed Style, Fine Irreg.	C-108	10	69.7	70	68.2	-1.5	+0.3
Orig. Wyo. Fine Good Fr. Ewes	C-109	20	62.9	64	60.2	-2.7	+1.1
Graded fine combing, K C. line 45	C-110	10	61.6	62	62.1	+0.5	+0.4
Original Wyoming	C-111	10	77.3	74	77.0	-0.3	-3.3
Combing Montana, 64/60s	C-112	10	72.1	70	70.9	-1.2	-2.1
Orig. Fine Wyo. average French	C-113	10	55.7	53	54.4	-1.3	-2.7
Orig. Fine Wyo. average French (Dupl)	C-114	10	53.1	61	52.0	-1.1	+7.9
Orig. Wyoming, Seems Damp	C-114A	10	52.6	61	52.9	+0.3	+8.4
Original California Fine	C-115	10	67.0	67	65.0	-2.0	0.0
Original California Fine	C-116	10	51.4	49	50.5	-0.9	-2.4
Original Texas Fine	C-117	10	51.2	49	49.3	-1.9	-2.2
Original Texas Fine	C-118	10	63.8	59	63.4	-0.4	-4.8
Original Texas Fine	C-119	10	58.5	57	57.0	-1.5	-1.5
Original New Mexico, Fine	C-120	10	62.7	61	63.3	+0.6	-1.7
Original Wyoming 10E 2Y	C-121	12	68.2	61	68.8	+0.6	-2.2
Original Utah	C-122	10	63.3	65	62.7	-0.6	+1.7
Original Washington	C-123	10	54.3	61	54.5	+0.2	+6.7
Original Oklahoma	C-124	10	76.1	70	74.3	-1.8	-6.1
Original Oklahoma	C-125	10	74.0	70	73.1	-0.9	-4.0
Original Oklahoma	C-126	10	74.6	71	72.9	-1.7	-3.6
Original Wyoming	C-127	12	69.2	66.5	71.9	+2.7	-2.7
Original Wyoming	C-128	13	65.8	65	68.3	+2.5	-0.8
Orig. Wyoming Fine and Fine Medium	C-129	10	59.0	60	57.9	-1.1	+1.0
Original Bag 64s	C-130	10	64.3	65.5	67.0	+2.7	+1.2
Original Wyoming	C-131	10	69.4	67	69.5	+0.1	-2.4
Orig. Wyo. bulk F. and some 1/2 Blood	C-132	10	61.7	65	64.1	+2.4	+3.3
Original Wyoming	C-133	10	65.3	65	66.8	+1.5	-0.3
64/60s Wyoming	C-134	11	66.6	66.5	68.0	+1.4	-0.1
Original Wyoming	C-135	12	73.2	65.5	71.1	-2.1	-7.7
Original Wyoming	C-136	11	65.4	64	69.2	+3.8	-1.4
Original Colorado	C-137	10	66.0	64	66.3	+0.3	-2.0
Original Colorado	C-138	10	66.3	66	66.4	-0.4	-0.8
Original Arizona Fine French	C-139	10	75.6	73	72.9	-2.7	-2.6
Original Arizona Fine French (Dupl)	C-139A	10	74.4	73	75.7	+1.0	-1.7
Original Montana Fine Combing	C-140	10	58.3	59	56.1	-2.2	+0.7
Original Montana 64s French	C-141	10	54.5	59	54.0	-0.5	+4.5
Original Wyoming 64s aver. to short	C-142	10	60.2	63.5	59.0	-1.2	+3.3
Original Montana 64s average French	C-143	10	59.9	63	61.5	+1.6	+3.1
Original Wyoming 64s Combing	C-144	10	66.7	66	66.8	+0.1	-0.7
Orig. Mont. 60/64s average French	C-145	10	59.1	62.5	61.6	+2.5	+3.4
Original Montana 64s average French	C-146	10	55.5	59	54.5	-1.0	+3.5
Original Montana 60/64s Combing	C-147	10	58.9	61	60.6	+1.7	-2.1
Graded Montana 60/62s Good French	C-148	10	52.6	57.5	52.9	+0.3	+4.9
Graded Montana 64s Combing	C-149	10	59.8	63	59.2	-0.6	+3.2
Graded Montana 64s French	C-150	10	52.0	62	58.6	+6.6	+10.0
Graded Montana 64s French	C-150A	10	57.3	62	57.6	+0.3	+4.7
Graded Wyoming 64/70s French	C-151	10	60.7	65	62.2	+1.5	+4.3
Original Texas Fine	C-152	10	60.3	59	59.4	-0.9	-1.3
Original Texas Fine	C-153	10	62.8	57	63.6	+0.8	-5.8
Utah 64s Good French	C-156	10	66.4	64	66.3	-0.1	-2.4
Utah 60s Good Staple	C-157	10	62.8	60	62.8	0.0	-2.8
Colorado 64s Staple 1 1/2	C-158	10	73.9	71	75.8	+1.9	-2.9
Wyoming 56/58s Col. Char. & Cond. Poor	C-159	10	64.0	61	63.6	-0.4	-3.0
Wyoming 60/64s Col. & Cond. average	C-160	10	65.4	64	66.2	+0.8	-1.4
Colorado 80 Per Cent 64s-20 Per Cent 60/64s	C-161	10	57.1	58	57.5	+0.4	-1.4
Colorado Poor Char. & Col. Heavy 64/70s	C-162	10	79.6	77	80.2	+0.6	-2.6
Colorado 64s Good Color and Condition	C-163	10	64.4	65	64.0	-0.4	+0.6
85 Per Cent 64s-15 Per Cent 60s Heavy Condition	C-164	10	69.2	68.5	69.7	+0.5	-0.7
Original Wyoming 64s average Cond.	C-165	10	61.6	65	61.9	+0.3	+3.4
Original Wyoming, Fine	C-166	10	60.8	64.5	60.1	-0.7	+3.7
Original Wyoming, Fine	C-167	10	67.8	67.5	67.4	-0.4	-0.3
Original Wyoming, Fine	C-168	10	63.2	62	62.8	-0.4	-1.2
Graded Wyoming, Fine	C-169	10	67.2	67	66.7	-0.5	-0.2
Original Wyoming, Fine	C-170	10	68.4	69	67.7	-0.7	+0.6
Original Utah (Free Wool)	C-171	13	67.4	66	66.5	-0.9	-1.7
Graded Wyoming Fine French	C-172	10	67.7	66	67.8	+0.1	-3.5
Graded Wyoming 1/2 Blood	C-173	10	65.5	61.5	64.4	-0.6	-6.6
Graded Wyoming 3/4 Blood	C-174	10	61.6	55	60.9	-0.7	-5.5
Wyoming Bulk 64s C. & C. Choice	C-181	10	51.5	57.0	49.6	-1.9	+5.5
So. Dak. Graded Fine, S. aver. C. & C. aver.	C-182	7	58.2	61.0	58.5	+0.3	+2.8
So. Dak. 60/62s S. good C. & C. aver.	C-183	10	57.5	56.5	56.7	-0.8	-1.0
Mont. Bulk 60/64s S. good C. & C. good	C-184	10	52.3	55.5	50.0	-2.3	+3.2
South Dakota 64s	C-185	10	49.9	59.5	52.0	+2.1	+9.4
So. Dak. 64/62s S. aver. Cond. good	C-186	10	57.2	56.5	55.5	-1.7	-0.7
So. Dak. 60/64s S. good C. & C. good	C-187	10	52.6	57.0	51.2	-1.4	+4.4
So. Dak. 60/62s S. good C. & C. Choice	C-188	10	57.5	54.0	55.4	-2.1	-3.5
So. Dak. 64/70s S. aver. C. & C. Choice	C-189	10	60.8	58.0	57.8	-3.0	-2.3
So. Dak. 56/58s S. good C. & C. Choice	C-190	10	55.7	50.0	54.0	-1.7	-5.7
So. Dak. Mixed Grades Yearling Wool	C-191	10	59.3	56.5	54.9	-4.4	-2.8
Colorado 64s French, Good Staple	C-192	15	75.7	70.0	76.8	+1.1	-5.7
Colorado 64s French, Good Staple	C-194	16	76.1	74.0	76.4	+0.3	-2.1
Montana Fine	M-201	12	56.9		55.9	-1.0	
Montana Fine	M-202	10	52.2		51.8	-0.4	
Montana Fine	M-203	10	51.5		51.5	0.0	
Montana Fine	M-204	8	58.8	59	57.0	-1.8	+0.2
Montana Fine	M-205	10	48.2		46.0	-2.2	
Montana Fine	M-206	10	49.2		49.0	-0.2	
Montana Fine	M-207	10	60.8		60.8	0.0	
Montana Fine	M-208	8	54.5		53.6	-0.9	
Montana Fine	M-209	10	59.9		57.6	-2.3	
Montana Fine	M-210	10	56.1	62	57.4	+1.3	+5.9
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-1	10	60.7	58	60.5	-0.2	-2.7
Texas 64/70s Combing and Fr. C. Heavy	T-2	10	68.2	68	70.2	+1.5	-0.7
Texas 64/70s Fr. C. and Clo. aver. size	T-3	10	61.5	62	62.4	+0.9	+0.5
Texas 64/70s Fr. C. Heavy	T-4	10	73.0	72	73.7	+0.7	-1.0
Texas 56s French Combing Light	T-5	10	53.7	43	54.9	+1.2	+10.7
Texas 50s French Combing Light	T-6	10	50.6	45	52.2	+1.6	-5.6
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-7	12	55.8	58	55.0	-0.8	+2.2
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-8	12	56.1	58	56.9	+0.8	+1.9
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-9	12	56.9	58	55.8	-1.1	+1.1
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-10	12	55.9	58	56.8	+0.9	+2.1
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-11	12	55.9	58	55.3	-0.6	+2.1
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-12	12	55.6	58	55.9	+0.3	+2.4
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-13	13	56.1	58	56.9	+0.8	+1.9
Texas 64/70s French Combing Light	T-13B	85	56.0	58	56.0	0.0	+2.0

ing, as the cylinder blade did not efficiently cut and retain the more loosely packed wools.

These core samples were scoured and their shrinkages were checked against the shrinkages of the 10-bag lots which were scoured by commercial scourers.

An interesting phase of the program arose from the fact that on 92 of the 100 lots tested, estimated shrinkages had been assessed by committees each consisting of three competent wool dealers commissioned by the Government for that purpose. Thus each estimate of shrinkage consisted of the combined judgment of three wool experts.

In addition to the 92 lots on which were placed estimates of shrinkage, the remaining 8 test lots consisted of free wools, that is, wools marketed before inception of the Government's purchase program. However, retests of one or more of the original 100 lots, made in order to verify previous results, brought to 109 the total number of lots tested.

The detailed results are given in Table 1. Column number 1 gives official description of the clips assigned by the Government's appraisers; column number 2 gives the lot numbers; column number 3 shows the number of bags tested from each clip or graded line; column number 4 shows the actual shrinkage of each 10-bag lot found by scouring the entire 10 bags; column number 5 contains the estimates of shrinkage by the appraisal committees of three wool experts, reappraisal figures being given in brackets in those cases in which reappraisals were made; column number 6 gives the shrinkages as found by scouring the small core samples; column number 7 shows the differences which exist between the core sample shrinkages and the actual shrinkages of the 10-bag lots; column number 8 gives the differences between the shrinkage estimate and the actual shrinkages. In columns 7 and 8 when the core shrinkages or estimates are less than the actual shrinkages the differences are indicated by minus (-) signs and when they are more than the actual shrinkages the differences are indicated by plus (+) signs.

Results from the total 109 tests show that the average of the differences between the core sample shrinkages and the actual shrinkages of the 10-bag lots was only 1.115 per cent. Furthermore, the 109 core shrinkages averaged 61.526 per cent, the 109 actual shrink-

ages averaged 61.681 per cent, with a difference of only 0.155 per cent shrinkage.

Differences between individual shrinkages of the core samples and the bag lots varied from a low (-) of 4.4 per cent to a high (+) of 3.8 per cent. In 63 cases out of 109, the shrinkages of the cores were within 1 per cent of the actual shrinkages. In 5 other cases the core shrinkages were exactly the same as the actual shrinkages. These 68 lots comprise 62.4 per cent of the entire 109 test lots.

Consider now the 92 lots on which both estimates and core sample shrinkages were obtained. For the core samples, the range of errors extends from a low of -4.4 per cent to a high of +3.8 per cent with an average error of 1.166 per cent. For the estimates, the range of errors extends from a maximum underestimate of -10.7 per cent to a maximum overestimate of +9.4 per cent with an average error of 2.82 per cent. Tables 2 and 3 show the range of errors for both core and estimated shrinkages.

It will be seen from Table 2 that the estimated shrinkages were within 1 per cent of the actual shrinkages in only 24 or 26 per cent of the 92 lots, while the shrinkages of the core samples were

Table 2—Range of Errors of Estimated Shrinkages from Actual Shrinkages and of Core Sample Shrinkages from Actual Shrinkages for 92 Lots of 1943 Wool.

Percentage intervals	Errors from Actual Shrinkages by Estimated shrinkages	Core sample shrinkages
0.0—0.5	11	29
0.6—1.0	13	21
1.1—1.5	10	14
1.6—2.0	4	13
2.1—2.5	8	8
2.6—3.0	11	4
3.1—3.5	12	1
3.6—4.0	3	1
4.1—4.5	3	1
4.6—5.0	3	0
5.1—5.5	2	0
5.6—6.0	4	0
6.1—6.5	1	0
6.6—7.0	2	0
7.1—7.6	1	0
7.6—8.0	1	0
8.1—8.5	1	0
8.6—9.0	0	0
9.1—9.5	1	0
9.6—10.0	1	0
10.1—10.5	0	0
10.6—11.0	0	0
Total lots	92	92

within 1 percent of the actual shrinkages in 48 or 53 per cent of the lots. A similar degree of errors occurs between the estimates and the core shrinkages with each increase in percentage range of differences, with the result that 87 of the core samples are found to differ within a 3 per cent limit while only 57 of the estimates come within 3 per cent.

In Table 3 it should be noted that the estimates were fairly close to the actual shrinkages in wools shrinking between 55 and 70 per cent, though badly in error above and below this range. The core sample shrinkages are closely uniform in all ranges except for one lot in the 45.0 per cent to 49.9 per cent range.

Table 3—Comparative Percentage Errors in Appraisers' Estimates and in Core Shrinkages at Various Levels of Actual Shrinkages.

Actual shrinkage ranges	No. of lots	Average errors in appraisers' estimates	Average errors in core shrinkages
Percent		Percent	Percent
75.0—79.9	3	4.0	0.9
70.0—74.9	8	3.9	1.3
65.0—69.9	23	1.3	1.0
60.0—64.9	22	2.6	1.0
55.0—59.9	19	2.2	1.4
50.0—54.9	12	5.1	1.3
45.0—49.9	1	9.4	2.1

In order to illustrate graphically the comparative errors of the core samples and the estimates, Figure 2 portrays their variation above and below the actual shrinkages. It is apparent from inspection of this figure that the core shrinkages more accurately expressed the true or actual shrinkages than did the estimates.

The data contained in the tables attached to this article are the result of nine months of careful experimentation and are considered highly satisfactory in that they show the core sampling method of determining wool shrinkages to be more accurate and dependable than estimates of shrinkage based on visual and manual examinations which involve human judgment only.

These investigations have thrown considerable light on various phases of the shrinkage problem and have served to orient the investigations planned for the 1944 season. With certain improved methods of sampling and with a newly developed and superior coring machine, it is felt that greater accuracy in wool shrinkage determination can

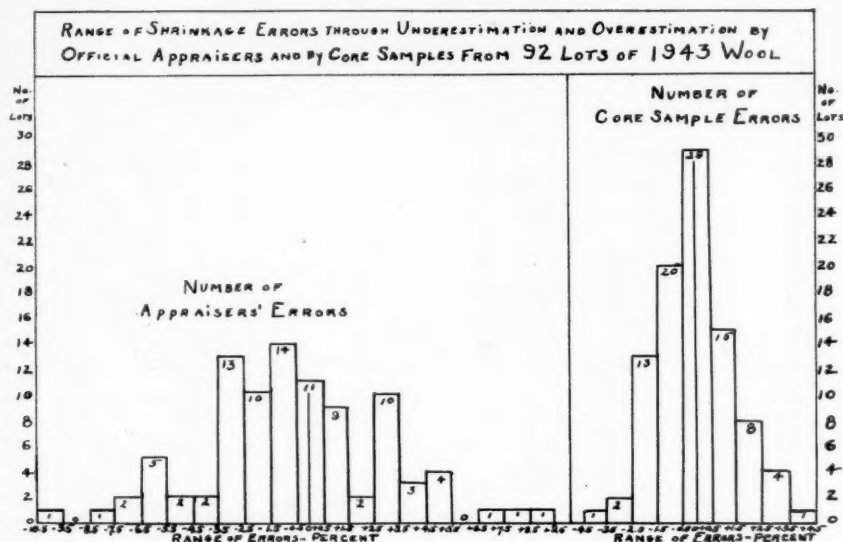


FIGURE 2

be obtained by core sample testing this year than it has been possible to obtain in the past.

For their excellent cooperation during the past year, the Livestock and Meats Branch of the Office of Distribution, War Food Administration, wishes to thank the officials of the Wool Scouring Plant, Texas Agricultural and Me-

chanical College and Agricultural Experiment Station, College Station, Texas; the Wool Department, Montana State College and Agricultural Experiment Station, Bozeman, Montana; and the Wool Department, Agricultural College and Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming.

Wool Fund Contributors

Contributors to the wool fund made by growers whose names are shown in the following list were received from Merriam and Wilkins, Denver, Colorado, and the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association to cover deductions made from wool sales to the Commodity Credit Corporation in 1943. The deductions in Texas were made by the Texas wool warehouses. James Laidlaw of Idaho made his contribution direct to the American Wool Council.

The American Wool Council also wishes to acknowledge publicly the receipt of checks for \$1,000 from Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill, wool dealers of Boston, and the American Angora Goat Raisers Association of Rock Springs, Texas; \$500 from the Colonial Wool Company of Boston; and \$10,316.22 from Swift and Company. The payment from Swift and Company is made on the basis of one sixth of

a cent per head of wool lambs and sheep slaughtered by them in 1943.

Growers, while realizing full well the superior intrinsic value of wool for wearing apparel—a fact also firmly established in the use of wool clothing by our armed forces—must nevertheless face the fact that synthetic fibers such as rayon and Aralac are catching, or have caught a strong hold on the domestic civilian market. Well-financed advertising and publicity campaigns are doing the work. Wool must maintain its place through the same type of effort. It is strongly urged therefore that growers ask the wool agencies handling their clip this year to deduct the 10 cents per bag (5 cents for smaller bags) from their wool checks for the wool fund. If difficulty is encountered in doing that, then the proper amount should be sent to State Associations for remittance to the American Wool Council.

ARIZONA

Thomas B. Baird
Ben Lynch Estate
Willis Lynch
Penrod Brothers
T-2 Sheep Co.
Jos. K. Udall

CALIFORNIA

Mrs. Anna M. Seal

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Herbert Anderson
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Abe Abrams
Ed Aragan
Floyd H. Anderson
Augilar Native
Crafts Coop.
Art Andrews
C. A. Axelson
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Frances Arnet
Allan Brothers
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Frank P. Buckley
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J. Novinger
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George Bernhart
Anton Bloder
Francis Bruning
Gayle Bogenhagen
Alice Bernmaster
W. B. Bottom
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Elmer Ball
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A. R. Buckley
Jess Butrum
W. C. Bourne & Son
C. R. Buckley
Virgil Bolinger
F. P. Brenniman
Boney Cisneros
B. C. Chesnut
Gerald Colard
Clair Colard
Robert S. Conner
George W. Clark
Craig Hide & Fur Co.
R. E. Campbell
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C. H. Campbell
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Cheatum and Thompson
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Bluford Chitwood
Wilbur J. Clark
Charles Cox
Bob Clark
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Karl Meyers
O. M. Crain
Dan Carl
John T. Dine
R. E. Drew
M. F. Dicken
J. B. Dorenkamp
J. C. Davis
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Elvin E. Eaton
James Ethridge
Joe E. Evans
Earl & Earl
Earl & Japhet
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G. W. Hawley
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Elmer Gustafson
L. L. Good
Leslie W. Gove
Eugenio Gallegos
Carl Golden
Edgar Graves
August Gebauer

(Continued on page 22)



Here is a scene in the meat processing room of a southern Army Air Base in which an electric machine is being used in cutting lamb chops. For the most part this group of men are expert meat cutters who have received instruction at meat training schools conducted by National Livestock and Meat Board specialists. These men are not only well grounded in the art of cutting lamb and other meats but are also familiar with the basic methods of cooking meat, carving meat and serving meat, as well as the conservation of meat and fats.

A Lamb Program For America's Armed Forces

AMONG all of the nations which are engaged in this global war, America is recognized as having the advantage in abundance of food resources. Our soils are high in producing power, and we are taking steps to see that their fertility is conserved and improved. It is significant that, within recent years, acre yields of some of our most important food crops have actually been increased.

Food is recognized as a weapon of war. We know that food is just as necessary in the achievement of ultimate victory as are the ships, planes, tanks, guns, and ammunition which come from the assembly lines of our great war production plants.

Many foods enter into the meals of our fighting men, but no one food is recognized as being of greater importance than is meat. The average soldier in our Army consumes about six pounds of meat per week or about 300 pounds per year. This is more than double our consumption of meat per capita nationally.

The Government called upon the Nation's livestock growers and feeders for more and more meat. That call has been answered by the production of record-breaking supplies year after year. Our estimated meat production in 1943 was more than 24 billion pounds. In spite of this increasing production, our livestock population at the

beginning of this year was the greatest in our history.

The importance of meat in the Army was recognized by the Army Quartermaster Corps when it called upon the National Livestock and Meat Board for assistance in the handling and utilization of its meat supplies. In response to that call the Board has been carrying on a meat program in the Army for the past three years.

The Board's entire staff of meat specialists is giving its full time to this program which involves instruction for mess officers, mess sergeants and cooks in all phases of the subject of meat in relation to its most efficient use in Army meals.

The meat program for the Army is conducted by means of lecture-demonstrations, since this type of presentation doubtless is the most satisfactory way to drive home the essential facts to mess personnel. Those under instruction learn by actually doing the work themselves after having observed the methods demonstrated.

The magnitude of the Board's meat program for the armed forces is better understood when we consider that since the beginning of the program and up to the end of 1943, its specialists had conducted about 3,000 meat programs at some 260 Army posts, naval stations and air bases from coast to coast. These were attended by about 250,000 officers and men. During this same period,

hundreds of men have been trained as meat specialists and as meat instructors in the Bakers' and Cooks' Schools. The training of these men has made it possible to extend greatly the scope of the Board's efforts in this field.

In its meat program for the armed forces, the Board gives equal consideration to all meats—lamb, beef, pork and veal. One of the very first publications prepared for use in the Army was a 32-page Handbook on Cutting Lamb. In the introduction to this Handbook is the following comment: "Lamb offers possibilities for variety and appetite appeal in the Army mess. Furthermore it is a meat that is easy to handle and easy to prepare. The information and suggestions contained in this handbook are presented with a view to helping the Army cook secure the most satisfactory results in cutting, cooking and serving this meat."

This handbook, which contains illustrated step-by-step instruction on cutting lamb for roasts and stews as well as information on the carving and cooking of lamb, has been placed in every Army mess hall in the Nation.

In the cutting phase of the lamb instruction a method of cutting has been developed which is equally practical for machine or hand cutting. The method has proved to be popular with Army personnel because it saves time, is simple and easy to follow. If an electric meat cutter is used, a carcass of lamb

can be cut into chops in a very few minutes. More time is required when the job is done by hand, but tests have shown that a carcass can be cut into chops by hand as quickly as it can be rolled and boned for roasts. In cutting the chops by hand, no cleaver is needed since a cleaver makes bone splinters, and the chops will not be as uniform in thickness or as attractive in appearance as when cut with the knife or saw.

The approved issue of carcass lamb for chops is 60 pounds for 100 men. When cut into chops the carcass yields about 58 per cent boneless meat suitable for hamburgers, stews, patties, etc. and 22 per cent bones, fat and usable trimmings.

A 60-pound lamb will provide about 75 chops averaging about 7.5 ounces each. When it is desirable to serve lamb chops to the entire mess of 100 men, the Board's specialists recommend a double issue of carcass lamb. For example, 105 pounds of carcass lamb will furnish 100 individual chops for dinner and also enough meat for a delicious lamb loaf for supper.

Full directions for cutting lamb chops by machine and by hand are contained in the Board's new publication titled "Guide For Cutting Lamb Chops" for our armed forces, which will soon be off the press. This publication, which will serve as a supplement to the original "Handbook on Cutting Lamb," will stress the fact that in the preparation of these chops, as well as all other meats, the cooking should be at a low temperature and also that one should not overcook. It is also recommended that lamb chops should be served hot immediately after cooking.

This new publication contains recipes for braised lamb chops, fried lamb chops, hamburgers, lamb cheesburgers, lamb patties, and lamb Salisbury steaks.

In carrying out the lamb program for the armed forces, the specialists of the Board cover a wide array of subjects, such as the bone structure of the carcass, ways of utilizing the various portions of the carcass, methods of roasting, stewing, broiling and panbroiling lamb. Instruction is given in the carving of cooked lamb, what to serve with lamb, how to plan menus with lamb, etc. In short, every possible help is given the mess personnel in making the best possible use of lamb in the mess.

During the early stages of this program for lamb and other meats, it was largely conducted in the Army. With

the rapid increase in our naval forces, however, the galley personnel felt the need of assistance in the handling and utilization of its meat supplies. The Bureau of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy called on the Board for assistance.

Before launching a Navy meat program, the Board's specialists made a thorough study of its meat problems at shore installations and on various types of ships. This study showed that the meat problems of the Navy are somewhat different than those of the Army. So a practical method of cutting lamb and other meats in accordance with Navy requirements was developed.

Most of the Navy messes are of the consolidated type with thousands of men fed under one roof. In many of these messes, use is made of electric meat cutters and for that reason the instruction in cutting methods covers the use of these machines as well as hand cutting.

The schedule of Navy meat programs for the first part of 1944 is as follows: Sampson Naval Training Station, N. Y.; Coast Guard Station, N. Y.; Camp Peary, Va.; New River Marine Base, N. C.; Farragut Naval Training Station, Idaho; San Diego Training Station, California; Naval Air Station, Texas, and the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Illinois.

The Board reports that its program for the armed forces has been greatly facilitated by the splendid cooperation shown by officers and men of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. They recognize that a well-fed Army, other things being equal, is an Army of high courage and morale. They recognize that since meat is a leading component of the meal, every consideration should be given to observing those rules which make it possible to serve this food in all its appetizing goodness.

Larger Cattle Marketings Urged

The marketing of two to three million head of cattle more than normal in the next four months is being urged by the Office of Price Administration and the War Food Administration. Some cattlemen themselves are suggesting that eight million more head be marketed this year than in 1943 when a peak slaughter figure of twenty-seven million was recorded. The increased marketings are held necessary by the Government agencies to avoid the shortage of beef which is looming for the spring and early summer as well as to reduce the unusually large numbers of cattle on the range. There has been some talk of increasing the rollback subsidy on beef cattle by 30 cents per hundredweight to stimulate earlier and larger marketings.

Wool Fund Contributors

(Continued from page 20)

Florian Gebauer	Kay Kraviz
William Gebauer	August Kern
Reinhold Gebauer	Lawrence M. Kirk
Melvin A. Gulden	V. P. King and
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Claude Gawthrop, Jr.	Chris L. Koenig
Leo Greenfield	Antone and
Sid Grey	Raymond Knez
Claude M. Gardner	F. B. Keller
David Gee	A. F. and Donald E. Kern
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Margaret Grubbs	Albert Kerskind
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L. J. Helget	E. E. Leach
Hixson Brothers	Clarence Layman
Harold Holt	Thomas Lawson
J. C. Higbee	Walter Lund
Delbert Hawkins	J. A. Lohn
Harry Hanks	Dick Larkin
Linley Hollingsworth	E. Leyshon
W. L. Howard	Robert N. Lawton
D. W. Hand	R. August Lindblad
Nels Hevner	K. T. Logan
J. A. Henry	Roy G. Lawson
W. H. Hilbert	C. C. Larson
Charles F. Heinrich	Joe Long
Guy Hill	Mrs. B. L. Ligon
Thos. Hobbs	Fred Levin
E. A. Henry	Geo. S. Litchfield
Edna E. Haworth	Salvador Lucero
L. M. Holston	Mike Lapsansky
Vencesla O. Herrera	Fred E. Lange
Clarence Hass	Chas. Lauer
K. L. Hammond	J. E. Merrick
C. H. Hammons	Gail Moore
Alice Hogzatt	Ole Madsen
Dan Hutton	Josephine L. Montoya
Elmer C. Hellekson	Ralph McKellips
Wesley Harris	Herbert Miller
Herma Huntington	Charles A. K. Moss
Earl Hammons	Louis H. Miller
Louis Hart	Otis Moore
David Hoffman	A. C. Ming
Mrs. Agnes Hunt	Charles C. McKay
R. J. Harnagel	A. C. Morris
A. E. Hammons	L. T. Major
Conrad Hopp, Jr.	Lawrence Montoya
Otto Hasser	Roland Miller and
Mrs. Mabel Hughes	Ed Boinay
Mrs. Florence Hale	C. W. Myers
E. F. Hichman	E. F. Meddel
Benj. W. Hill	Roscoe W. Moore
Hutton and Broyles	Wm. Meusborn
Cecil D. Hawthorne	Frank Magnuson
John N. Halbert	Harold P. Martin and
L. I. Hart and	Michael Sorensen
Elsie A. Kent	Rufus S. Marshall
Frank Harshman	Elmer Mitchell
John Hynds	B. J. Morrow
Ottis Hoffman	Mrs. M. B. Malone
Huttons Ranch	William Musgrave
John Hamill	George W. Miller
Neil E. Hawthorne	Leo Moser
E. T. Hall	Paul D. McGrath
G. E. Hammer	S. H. Masters
Mary Ion	H. C. Miller
Robert Isgar	John McQueen
Edythe J. Jankovsky	Archie Moyer
J. N. Jacobson	J. W. Miller
M. E. Jay	Joe Miller
D. Jimeno	John R. Miller
C. M. Johnson	Gene McPherson
Jarboe and Strain	C. E. Morgan
Brothers	Raymond A. McCabe
S. H. Jones	Alex. MacDonnell
Percy W. Jenkins	Eudocio Maestas
Thomas Jacquez	William Middagh
Lee Johnson	Edison Mason
Asa F. Johnson	M. B. Marr
Mrs. Herman Jost	P. A. Mack
Raymond P. Jacquez	A. R. Martin
Marie K. Johnson	V. C. Moore
Harvey G. Johnson	W. B. Morrison
R. W. Jones	W. P. Morley
Mrs. C. E. Jessee	F. Y. Moseley
Mildred Johnson	Rugus Marshall
Lyle James	Harold Means
James B. Jolly	W. H. Means
John Jolly	Ray McGrath
Pat Jones	Sam Mersfelder

(Continued on page 36)

Grazing District Notes

INFORMATION based upon quarterly reports of regional graziers in ten states is furnished by the Grazing Service, Salt Lake City, Utah. This contains highlights of conditions and activities on the federal range during the period January to March, 1944, as observed by field men who are in daily contact with the range and the livestock industry in 58 grazing districts.

General

Advisory board meetings to consider grazing applications, range improvements, and other matters were completed in most of the districts during January and February. Actions involved prospective range use in many of the districts up to the spring of 1945. A summary of board recommendations indicates that the current year's stocking will be about the same as for 1943, except in certain areas where shifts from sheep to cattle will cause a reduction of total numbers.

The total number of livestock licensed and permitted in 1943 was 190,343 head less than in 1942 in the same districts. Sheep were decreased by 201,084 head and cattle were increased by 54,191 head. In 1942 the total livestock licensed and permitted was 10,777,793 head. At the same time the number of authorized range users was increased by 770.

The following tabulation gives a summary of 1943 range use in the Grazing Service regions:

Region	No. Of Dis.	Number Of Licensed Operators	Number Of Cattle	Number Of Horses	Number Of Sheep	Number Of Goats	Total Livestock
Arizona	4	615	82,236	2,763	108,130	24,625	217,754
Colorado	8	2,343	179,907	5,782	876,528	127	1,062,344
Idaho	5	3,327	186,098	18,142	1,258,717	55	1,463,012
Montana	6	3,100	197,491	24,890	1,056,321	56	1,278,758
Nev.-Cal.	7	1,844	384,435	18,977	1,024,099	4,009	1,431,520
New Mex.	6	2,355	285,149	12,560	711,598	57,721	1,067,028
New Mex. 7	1	1,553	5,285	9,197	109,550	18,726	142,758
Oregon	7	1,506	206,686	14,501	402,320		623,507
Utah	9	3,787	175,605	9,274	1,535,129	5,615	1,725,623
Wyoming	5	1,589	161,545	13,160	1,590,534	250	1,765,489
TOTAL	58	22,019	1,864,437	129,246	8,672,926	111,184	10,777,793

Arizona

C. F. Dierking, Regional Grazier

Range prospects were brightened in all districts with good snowfall at higher elevations and general rains elsewhere. Desert areas in the southern part produced a good crop of spring feed, which relieved critical hay and bulk feed demand. In some areas, particularly the Safford district, there is an abnormal hold-over of cattle due to slow buyer demand last fall. Movement to markets is below normal (March) although in localized areas contracts for spring delivery of yearling steers and heifers were made at satisfactory prices. A serious shortage of ranch and range labor exists, causing deep concern among sheepmen at a time when shearing and lambing season is approaching its peak period.

Colorado

Russell B. Rose, Regional Grazier

Mild weather reduced normal demand for sub-normal hay supplies and enabled operators to put their stock through in a generally good condition. Movement to markets is slow; a minimum of replacement buying is evident. Cattle on the winter range are in good flesh, particularly in the Dolores district where cattle required no supplemental feed on the range. Enough protein feed was available to get the sheep through severe weather which was

spotty. In the northern districts growers had to dig deeply into stored hay and grain at greatly increased operating costs. Definite increase of coyotes, which caused widespread sheep losses and some calf losses, was reported. Prospects for irrigated crops are poor due to light snowfall on the principal watersheds.

Idaho

K. C. Newman, Regional Grazier

Ample hay and mild weather contributed to the excellent condition of livestock, which will go to spring ranges in better than usual flesh. Ideal conditions for shed lambing, which is about completed (March), boosted the lamb crop in southern Idaho. Heavy rains and wet snow at lower elevations late in February gave promise of ample spring range. Moisture deficiencies on main watersheds are causing concern among farmers and stockmen, who look for a scarcity of important feed crops in 1944. Applications for spring grazing indicate that cattle numbers are up and sheep numbers are down—both to greater extremes than is shown by a study of figures for the nation as a whole.

Montana

R. E. Morgan, Regional Grazier

Except for a section in southeastern Montana where deep snow necessitated heavy February feeding, mild, open weather prevailed over most of the state. Winter range is good, but lack of snow caused unseasonable use of water stored in small stock ponds and a consequent shortage of such facilities for spring use. Ice on these ponds had to be removed periodically, adding to costs of operations. Stock are in excellent condition and good calf and lamb crops are expected. Demand for registered bulls is strong. Some cattle, especially dry cows, were moved from grass to local packers, at good prices. Lambs which were unsalable last fall have moved out of growers' hands to local feeders mainly. Out shipments of

cattle and sheep are going to West Coast markets in increasing numbers. Action on grazing applications for 1944 use indicate a decrease of horses, an increase of cattle, and little change in sheep numbers.

Nevada-California

Nic W. Monte, Regional Grazier

Moisture conditions are generally good in all districts. Snowfall on the Sierra-Nevada Mountains affecting Nevada and eastern California water supply has been the heaviest since 1938. Wet snow in scattered desert areas improved browse forage resulting in less than the normal demand for supplemental feed. On the other hand deficient ground moisture in parts of the Pyramid district, unless relieved by spring rain, will cause a serious shortage of summer range feed in that area. Crusted snow on high winter range caused sore feet and mouths among sheep in Elko and Pershing counties. This was abated by wet storms in late February. Cattle are wintering well. Fresh spring ranges in certain parts of California generated a movement of stocker and canner cattle from Nevada feed lots. Some cattle losses in widely scattered areas were attributed to water hemlock and black leg. Alfalfa sheep bloat is reported in Kern County where shearing is now under way. Ranch labor situation is acute, especially as it affects sheep operators during spring rush.

New Mexico

E. R. Greenslet, Regional Grazier

Moisture conditions improved during late winter. Deep snow in the northern part of the state caused heavy feeding, rapidly diminishing the short hay supply. General rains in the south during January relieved the drought but high winds in the west-central portion sapped ground moisture, darkening the prospects for spring grass in that section. In warm sections livestock are fleshing nicely on spring weeds. Calf and lamb crops are about normal. Grain and other protein feeds are scarce and high priced. There were some starvation death losses but not an alarming amount, as was anticipated last fall. Recent buyer demand in the wheat-growing sections has stimulated

sales of stocker cattle. Weights are lighter than usual, calves weighing about 350 pounds. Trading and sales of ranch properties had a brief, brisk spurt during the winter; many of the buyers are out-of-state investors.

Chaco District, New Mexico No. 7

Harry W. Naylor, Regional Grazier

Stockmen in this district fed all the hay and concentrates they could get. The comparatively open winter was generally favorable to the whole enterprise but stock of all classes are light in weight. Hold-over of both cattle and sheep due to poor demand last fall taxed all feed resources and left the growers with an expensive feeding problem. Several operators are selling down and many look for heavy shipments of lightweight stuff during the summer of 1944.

Oregon

Kenneth C. Ikeler, Regional Grazier

Moderate weather in eastern Oregon enabled growers to winter their herds economically, and livestock will go to the spring and summer range in unusually strong condition. Good calf and lamb crops are expected. Light snowfall gives promise of poor summer range unless spring rain is abundant. The high desert sheep range should be good for at least two months' spring grazing. Prospects for summer cattle range are gloomy in most districts. Removal of 4,700 horses from the Jordan Valley district during recent months will improve the situation for cattle and sheep in that area. Four private trappers removed 4,500 coyotes from ranges in Malheur County during the winter. Ranchers in that area reported the predatory animal situation "bad."

Utah

Charles F. Moore, Regional Grazier

With the exception of a few small areas, winter range conditions were below par in the state as a whole. Deep snow rendered many areas unusable for long periods and several operators

took only a part of their permitted numbers to the deserts. Some sheep losses occurred, due to deep snow and shortage of concentrates. Many secondary roads were snow-blocked for long periods. There is a decided swing from sheep to cattle. A limited number of feed-lot cattle moved at prices ranging up to \$15.50 a hundred. The movement of marketable beef was slow for the period. Transportation problems are bringing many difficulties to the range operator. Portable shearing plants are being abandoned, necessitating the trailing of flocks to plants located at railroad shipping points.

There was considerable activity among operators who are taking advantage of the transfer provisions of section 7 of the Federal Range Code.

Wyoming

Milton W. Reid, Regional Grazier

Weather conditions in the south and east-central parts of the region were the severest in many years, forcing cattle and sheep into feed lots in increasing numbers as the winter advanced. Much costly supplemental feeding on the range was also necessary. Deep snow and sub-zero temperatures in Fremont, Carbon, Sweetwater, and Lincoln counties during March kept the growers in a state of anxiety. Hay was plentiful at railroad points but expensive, and added difficulty was experienced in transportation of feed to outlying ranges. Light losses were reported.

In contrast the Sublette district and Big Horn Basin had mild weather and light snowfall, livestock wintering well. In these areas the outlook for summer grass and irrigation water is gloomy. The large carry-over of hay helped to level off feed prices in northern Wyoming allowing some profit to feeders whose activities held about firm in comparison with previous years.

Many growers are taking advantage of the transfer provisions of section 7 of the Federal Range Code, which enables them to shape their land set-ups to their range operations.

**Plan to buy your rams at the
National Ram Sale, August
22-23, North Salt Lake, Utah**

Around the Range Country

Western Texas

Temperatures were normal and favorable for livestock until the last week which was colder. Precipitation has been light, but ample for present and near future needs on the range. Ranges and livestock are making a good seasonal improvement, and livestock conditions are good, excepting in some of the drier far western districts. Livestock water is still low. Sheep and goat shearing has been delayed by rain.

Comfort, Kendall County

Weather and feed conditions on the winter range have been fair and our winter loss has been about the same as other years.

Half of our ewes are being fed hay or grain (March 4), the same as a year ago. Cottonseed cake sells for \$55 a ton. The number of stock ewes has increased this past year.

The outlook is okay for obtaining shearers. We also have sufficient burlap bags for this year. In fact, we have been able to get most everything we need for general operations, except shells.

Our net income and operating costs remain about the same.

J. J. Rose

Harper, Gillespie County

Feed on the spring range is excellent (March 28), much better than the last three years. Our sheep have wintered in fair shape, as we have been able to get sufficient feed after all.

Last year we saved between 65 and 70 lambs per 100 ewes, and this year, between 80 and 85. It has been hard to obtain sufficient lambing help, however.

We have been unable to obtain bone meal, and other supplies such as repair parts, horseshoes, fencing, lumber, are also hard to get. There are burlap bags on hand. The net income for 1943 after paying taxes is about the same as

in 1942, since the cost of operation is higher and income a little higher.

David Schmidt

Juno, Val Verde County

The outlook now is for a favorable spring (March 7). Our winter loss was less than in 1942 and 1943. About three per cent of our ewes are being fed hay or grain, and we also have used some cottonseed cake and meal that cost us \$65 a ton.

Shearers are scarce, but we have enough burlap bags and are also able to obtain other supplies necessary to operations.

Predatory animals are not so bad here, and the need for shells is not so great.

Our 1943 operating cost was up 4 per cent, and our income down 23 per cent in comparison with 1942.

C. G. and R. C. Robson

Kerrville, Kerr County

Feed on the spring range is a month earlier this year, and the sheep are getting all they want; the cattle are not coming to feed now (March 25).

The sheep have wintered in excellent shape, and we have no losses from lambing up to this date, although we do not have sufficient help. We hope to get enough shearers.

We will probably be able to get paper bags for this year's wool clip, but we are having difficulty in obtaining fence posts, lumber, and tin roofing. Horse-shoes are also hard to get.

Buzzards are our worst predators. Forest cats give some trouble. We have wolf-proof fences, which keep out the coyotes.

Labor is up 60 per cent and feed up 100 per cent, with other items in proportion.

Gus F. Schreiner

Arizona

Temperatures were colder than normal nearly all the month, while light to moderate showers of rain and snow occurred, though the moisture was somewhat streaked or spotty. Ranges and livestock have improved materially since the coming of warmer weather; the snow cover now being limited to the higher, northern country. Range feed is reported ample excepting only in parts of the northeastern quarter of the state. Many animals have been moved from valley to range pasturage.

New Mexico

Fine weather prevailed, though the last week or so was much colder than usual. Precipitation has been sufficient in most districts, but much of the state needs more rain for spring growth. High winds have accentuated the drying out of the soils. Livestock are largely in satisfactory condition and are making appreciable improvement. Shearing has progressed, largely with favorable weather.

The notes on weather conditions appearing under the names of the various states in *Around the Range Country* are furnished for this department by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of March. The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

Encino, Torrance County

The condition of sheep in this section is very poor in general, and the feed is very short (March 26).

It is very difficult to obtain sufficient help for lambing, etc. Wagons and trucks are the hardest things to get, although prospects for some other supplies are also bad. Apparently there is no shortage in wool bags.

We have had some Government trappers here, but have been unable to get shells.

Our expenses are higher this year as well as taxes.

Celestino Garde

Hope, Eddy County

The weather has been cold and windy, more so than for the past few years, thereby retarding the growth of spring feed.

As for wintering, the grown sheep came through in fine shape, but lambs now becoming yearlings came through very thin. I could not get sufficient feed. Whereas heretofore I always used two or three cars of cakes, I have only been able to get seven tons for the entire winter.

Our lambing has just started (March 25), and we are getting down to bed-rock on help. We are already through shearing, and paid a rate of 22 cents per head without board.

We had sufficient burlap wool bags for our clip. Tires, gasoline, and feed have been the hardest to obtain. We are definitely short of many supplies, and are having difficulty in replacing them.

I have always depended on trappers, whom I pay myself, to get rid of predators. I have only been able to get shells in small quantities.

The cost of operation has gone up 25 per cent. Taxes are also up, leaving little profit.

J. H. Clements, Jr

Miami, Colfax County

Range conditions generally are fair, (March 16). The past month's weather has been good, with no precipitation.

All of our ewes are being fed grain or cake. More concentrates were required this year because of the depleted condition of ewes from snow in December and January. Earlier, it was

difficult to get these concentrates, but now we are getting more at \$65 per ton. Alfalfa hay in the stack is not available. Flocks are somewhat thin, but in fair condition.

We have a sufficient number of herders. Our losses from predators is negligible. The ammunition is a little easier to get now.

M. N. Mikesell

Roswell, Chaves County

Range conditions have been good, and compare favorably with the last two or three years. Sheep have wintered well, and there is good feed on the spring range (March 29).

We are obtaining most materials necessary to our operation. Coyotes are plentiful here, but we have some shells. Our costs have gone up, and our net income is about the same.

Floyd Childress

Colorado

Temperatures were mild the first half, and below normal the rest of the month, except for some mild days at the close. Precipitation was light to moderate, heavier in the last two weeks, especially in northeastern quarter. Moisture has been ample, but none too heavy as a rule. Slight losses were reported among new calves and lambs. The snow of the last week blocked some roads over the eastern plains. Most livestock are in good condition. Scattered feeding has been needed. Side roads were poor much of the month.

Rosita, Custer County

Unless we get some moisture in the near future, the prospect is rather poor for a good spring range (April 3). The sheep wintered fairly well, although we have had more sheep on supplemental feed this year than last. We will start lambing about April 18.

Outlook for getting shearers is fair, and I think the rate of pay will be about 20 cents with board. We have a supply of paper wool bags to handle this year's clip, and the outlook for obtaining other supplies is fair. We are unable to get shells, however, and the coyotes are very bad.

The cost of operation for 1943 was increased almost 50 per cent.

Rex L. Clift

Hamilton, Moffat County

Range conditions are a little better than in previous years, so far, but we lack moisture (March 22). Our sheep have wintered well. The number of lambs saved so far is a little better than last year. We have not been able to get sufficient help for lambing, and the outlook for shearers is not too good. We were able to get sufficient paper bags for this year's clip, and are not short of other supplies, but the manpower situation is not so good.

We have had lots of coyotes and cats. Until recently, we were not able to get many shells, and then only 30-30's.

Our operating cost was twice as great last year as in 1942 and our net income very slight. I think that price ceilings on all animals are all out of line with the cost of operation. Let's have less of them if possible.

Edgar Clark

Rifle, Garfield County

The weather here has been very unsettled. We have plenty of moisture, and feed has started on the range, but we need some warm weather (March 26). We had a wet spring two years ago, and a dry one last year. Sheep have wintered well here, but they have taken a lot of feed.

We have just started lambing, but it looks as if we are going to have a shortage of experienced help. I think we will get by as usual as far as shearers are concerned. According to reports, they will be paid from 25 to 28 cents with board. We were able to get sufficient burlap wool bags for this year's wool clip, but there is a shortage of good concentrates here, and we have been unable to get shells. As for other supplies, I think there will be a sufficient supply.

We have had a part-time trapper this year, and have had less loss by predators than we had last year.

Operating costs are higher and net income, less. Our income tax was also higher.

L. W. Clough

Utah

Warm weather dominated the month, thought the last ten days were colder than usual. Precipitation was light, but the soil was moist from the melting of snow that fell earlier. Some suffering resulted to livestock from the snow

storm of the last week, in western areas, but as a rule livestock have been in fairly good shape for this time of year. The movement of sheep to lambing grounds has not yet begun on a large scale. Hay shortages were reported in central and southwestern areas.

Monroe, Sevier County

Because of heavy snows, little feed is available (March 23). Not since 1937 have we had so much snow this late in the season. Warm weather will bring an abundance of feed. Sheep have wintered only fairly well, as the growth of native feeds has been very slight, and we had little to begin with. Also, in the face of a need for more supplemental feeding than usual, we were unable to get concentrates.

Some few farm flocks are lambing, but lamb losses are heavy. Range herds will lamb about May 15.

Dependable help is a rarity. Mostly you must yield and never offend. The outlook for obtaining shearers is fair. The proposed rate of pay for them is 22 cents with board and 25 cents without board. We have been able to locate sufficient burlap bags for this year's wool clip.

We are having great difficulty in obtaining ammunition, trucks and tires. Repair parts and lumber are indeed rare. Some fencing is available.

The predators are having a field day; there are no shells and few trappers. Losses therefore are heavy.

Few sheep outfits can operate and show a profit. Sheepmen are most discouraged, and many outfits are for sale. There is a very pronounced feeling that we are suffering from too much government. We feel that food and fiber are most essential, yet we are treated by the Government with utter disregard. The policy covering the stockpile of wool is not satisfactory. We prefer that the C.C.C. be given the task of disposing of this wool, since they are acquiring the domestic clip. The Government played horse with us on this foreign wool.

Ferdinand Erickson

Woodruff, Rich County

March has been plenty tough, the worst in many years. The sheep have wintered okay, having been on hay and corn since January 1.

We lamb in May and help is not so plentiful. We do not have any shearers

in sight, but believe the shearing rate will be about the same as last year. We already have our bags.

Fencing material seems to be in the most plentiful supply, other materials just fair.

Coyotes are bad and we have no trappers. We cannot get shells in any amount either.

After our taxes for 1943 were paid, we were back on the borrowing line again, or, I would say, about 20 per cent below the two previous years.

R. E. Ellis

Nevada

Temperatures averaged about normal, but were largely below over large parts of the state at times, when warmer weather would have been more beneficial. Precipitation was light to moderate, but rather general. More moisture would improve spring range prospects in places. Ranges and livestock conditions are mostly good. Farming activity was interfered with at times by inclement weather. Some herds are moving from feeding areas to spring grazing lands.

Bottle Mountain, Lander County

The month of March has been very cold and stormy. What feed we had under the snow has frozen, and now there is very little (March 23). The livestock went into the winter in excellent condition as we had green grass in October and November.

Lambing has not started yet, only a very few on farms. Men are scarce and they are asking very high wages.

Bags are available in burlap, although they are selling for \$1.25. I cannot say whether there will be plenty.

Predatory animals are bad and crowd the stock at every turn, causing a lot of damage. Shells are hard to get.

Production costs are 25 per cent higher than in 1941, and the income smaller. It seems as if the Government is against the livestock growers at present.

Tony Herrera

Cherry Creek, White Pine County

Conditions are worse this spring than for the previous two or three years. There is no feed on the spring range as yet (March 25), and the sheep have wintered only fairly well. We tried to

get corn, but could only get sheep pellets.

We are having an awfully hard time to get any help at all. We have enough burlap wool bags left from last year to handle this year's clip. Fencing is hard to get, but help is our greatest problem.

Coyotes have been very bad in some sections. We ordered shells about a year ago, but cannot get any.

Wages have risen 40 per cent and costs of supplies have increased 20 per cent since 1941, while prices we have received for wool and lambs have been about the same. So there has been very little net income.

Unless there is something done about help, we won't be able to continue sheep raising.

Alex Heguy

California

Favorable temperature conditions prevailed over most of the state, and earlier in the month there was plenty of rain, but the rest of the month was quite dry in comparison. Ranges and pastures are backward over northern counties, but are excellent elsewhere. Livestock are mostly in good condition. The advance of farming conditions and crop development are just about normal for the season of year. Frost damaged early plants in the Sacramento Valley.

Coalinga, Coalinga County

Feed is very short (March 24), and unless we have more rain soon, the lambs will not get fat. By feeding, the sheep wintered fairly well. We were fortunate in being able to get the additional feed that was necessary this year, although cottonseed cake was not obtainable.

About the same number of lambs were saved this year as last. We had a hard time getting sufficient lambing help.

The outlook for shearers is okay here. About 30 or 31 cents is the rate paid with board. We were able to get an adequate supply of burlap bags for this year's wool clip. So far, what little we needed in the way of equipment, we have got.

Predatory animals are bad. We received some shells, but they were late.

Unless we can get more help than we have been getting, we will have to cut down or quit.

Jake Zwang

Pomona, Los Angeles County

Since March 1, weather and feed conditions have been ideal. Compared with the past two years, the feed is about a month late, due to a rather cold February. My spring range, however, never was in better condition (March 24).

My lambs have wintered very well. The less than one half of one per cent death loss was due to alfalfa bloat. My setup is strictly a feeder fattening program, with lambs at 60 to 70 pounds to start with.

Supplies are not hard to obtain with the exception of lumber.

Coyotes are still seen occasionally, but I have thinned them out somewhat with poison.

I have been a member of the National Wool Growers Association but a short time, and I wish to state that I think the valuable information contained in the Wool Grower is worth its weight in radium.

R. J. Ahern

Oregon

A few warm or fairly warm days were an aid to spring vegetation, as there have been occasional rains and snows to provide moisture as a general rule. But much freezing at night has kept the season behind its normal development. Growth has been slow in native plants. Pasturage is thus limited, but livestock having ample feed are generally thriving. Snow storage is below normal. Field work on farms has progressed satisfactorily.

Salem, Marion County

We have had a rather cold, dry spring here in the Willamette Valley. The season has been late, but green feed has made a good start now (April 5).

Ewes and lambs are doing well. Local mills are offering 43 cents for wool, as compared to 47 cents last year.

R. V. Hogg

Washington

Temperatures averaged below normal over eastern areas, but it was mostly mild in the West. Precipitation was not adequate, and ranges and farms generally need rain. The deficiency in precipitation has been continuous since last September, and most of the state is drier than normal. Spring wheat

needs rain to germinate, and fall wheat is growing slowly. Pastures are making slow growth, though livestock are in good condition. Some farm work has been done, including early planting.

Yakima, Yakima County

Weather conditions have been favorable throughout the winter and prospects for spring feed are good (March 8). Our winter loss has been less than normal, and considerably less than last year. Most sheep are now lambing and are being fed, although we have done less feeding than a year ago.

The local ceiling price on barley is \$50 a ton, but most sheepmen bought early at about \$40. Pea cubes are \$38 a ton, and the ceiling price on oats is \$52 a ton, but here, too, sheepmen bought early at about \$40 to \$42. The ceiling on alfalfa hay in the stack is \$20. There has been an ample supply of hay, but it will be cleaned up before the season is over.

The Department of Agriculture shows the stock sheep population of the State of Washington to be 449,000 head, an all-time low.

Our shearing will start in about three weeks, and we expect to have enough shearers to handle the work. We have been able to get burlap bags at 98 cents. Some merchandise is hard to obtain, and expensive, but no serious difficulties are being experienced, with the exception of ammunition. Lumber is very expensive, and repair parts are hard to get.

As stated above, although predatory animals are on the increase, we cannot obtain anywhere near enough shells. There are also not enough Government hunters to control coyotes properly.

The cost of operations is going up, we estimate a 30 to 40 per cent increase since 1942. Lack of labor is still the major problem, even with greatly reduced numbers. To make a profit under present conditions, a grower must obtain good results, which is hard to do. We have had very favorable weather conditions this year, which has been a big help.

D. S. Simmons

Yakima, Yakima County

Cold nights and lack of moisture are holding feed back. Dry weather has been very good for shed lambing, but good grass is lacking to turn out on

(March 25). Stock water is scarce, and prospects for spring feed are not as good as in the last two or three years. The sheep have wintered exceptionally well as the weather was favorable and the range feed good. Ewes came through the winter fat, without additional supplemental feed. No feeding was necessary until we started lambing. We have saved 15 to 25 per cent more lambs than we did last year on our various outfits. While there has been some scarcity of lambing help, we have enough to get by with.

We have barely enough shearers to go around. The rate for shearing is the same as last year. All grades of wool bags seem to be obtainable. Essential materials that are hard to get are parts for trucks, tractors, etc.

Predatory animals are increasing rapidly, and are a real menace. Shells are hard to get.

The cost of operation last year was at least 25 per cent higher with correspondingly less net income than in 1942. Lower lambing percentages and higher ewe loss for the winter of 1942-43 offset higher prices for lambs.

A. R. Bohoskey

Yakima Sheep Co.

Idaho

Temperatures persisted well below normal practically all the month. Precipitation was frequent enough, but was not heavy as a rule at any time; showers predominated in the southern portion, and snows farther north and in the mountains. Windy weather aided in drying fields late in the month, including pastures and ranges. Spring field work has been delayed. Winter grains and livestock forage are good for this time of year, and livestock are in good shape. Much grass needs moisture to start properly. Feed shortages were reported in the southeast. Mountain snow cover is subnormal.

Montana

Temperatures were below normal week after week, with now and then some subzero values. Precipitation was light to moderate, but none too plentiful anywhere. Vegetation is still dormant nearly everywhere; most wheat is fair to good, but some is poor. Lambing is well along in the central counties, and is beginning farther north; losses

light. More or less feeding has been necessary, and the only feed shortages were reported in the southeast. Livestock are good, except in the southeast where they are only fair.

South Dakota

Temperatures were steadily below normal, though the last week was warmer. Precipitation was general, frequent and moderate to heavy in spots. Frost is leaving the fields generally. Fields and roads are muddy. Little field work done. Feed has been hauled to livestock with difficulty, but livestock are generally in fair to good condition. A few losses occurred because feed could not be gotten to the herds in western counties.

Wyoming

Seasonable temperatures were reported until the latter part of the month when it was colder. Light to moderate precipitation occurred frequently, some of it being heavy and mostly in the form of snow. Old snow still covered the ground. Much suffering occurred among livestock, with some losses where isolated from feed and water. Winds were too strong for using windmills at wells. This was thus about the worst March of record in some respects. Deep snow prevailed; windmills were wrecked; roads blocked by snow drifts; little thawing weather; winds hampered grazing in areas swept bare; bulldozer road machinery used to make roads through snow to sheep and cattle bands; most water prospects good. Heavy shrinkages reported, but losses not great.

Cokeville, Lincoln County

The weather here has been cold with too much snow for grazing; feed on the range is poor. Our loss has been light in the sheep that have been fed a liberal amount of supplemental feed. Our main loss occurs between now (March 9) and when green grass comes. All of our ewes are being fed hay or grain. Last year we fed no hay, and corn to only ten per cent of the range herds. Corn costs us \$55 a ton and last fall we paid \$15 a ton for alfalfa hay in the stack; now it is \$18.

However, there is none to be had in these parts now.

There has been a decrease in the number of stock ewes in this section.

We can get shearers, but they say they cannot use the American-made shears, and must have the English-made, which are unobtainable. We bought our wool bags last summer. They are second-hand; we used this kind in 1943 and found them okay.

The only rationed item we are having difficulty in obtaining is sugar. We are also having a hard time, as stated above, in getting English sheep shears, barbed wire, fence posts (cedar), new farm machinery, and alarm clocks. Parts are also very scarce for camp equipment repairs.

For the past year we have had less than ten per cent of the ammunition that we needed. Coyotes and bears are very bad on the summer range.

Due to the high cost of feed and the amount that we have had to use this winter, we do not expect to do much more than pay expenses this year. Our best year was 1942. In 1943 the increased cost of operation cut our profit considerably.

A. A. Covey

Douglas, Converse County

Feed is quite plentiful (March 1), although snow has covered the larger portion of the range in the majority of sections since January 1. Our winter loss has been greater this year.

About one half or two thirds of our ewes are being fed hay or grain. This is about 50 per cent more than last year. We have been able to get 17-per cent protein range cubes at \$63.80 a ton. Hay in the stack is from \$10 to \$12.

The number of stock ewes has decreased this past year.

The outlook for getting shearers is fair. We have been able to get a supply of burlap wool bags for this year's clip. The things we find hard to get are lumber and truck repair parts.

We have only been able to secure shells in very small quantities. Coyotes are on the increase in spite of state trappers, financed by a tax levy which does not raise sufficient revenue to do the job properly.

Our cost of operation in 1943 was about one third more than in 1942; our net income about the same, or slightly more.

George H. Cross, Jr.

Cokeville, Lincoln County

Weather and feed conditions on the range have been very bad and the spring range cannot be too good (March 24). The sheep have wintered fairly well. We have needed more supplemental feed, and cannot get it.

I can see where we are going to be very short of help to lamb with. I wish the Government would tell us just how to do this thing. They pay high wages and take all the men, and put ceilings on our products, so we have to pay just what amount we can get by on. It takes men to run ranches and sheep, and the Government wants everything that is any good.

We have been able to locate a sufficient number of used burlap bags for this year. However, it is very difficult to obtain rivets, sheep bells, axes, and shovels. We have not been able to secure any quantity of shells either and the outlook for other supplies is not very good.

John Dayton

California Lamb Sales

CONTINUED cold morning temperatures and lack of rainfall over the two main interior valleys in California are causing further deterioration in lamb conditions, according to a release by the War Food Administration on April 1. Additional rainfall was badly needed at that time in the early lamb producing sections, although in some instances the feed has already died and any rainfall now would be too late for much benefit.

In the San Joaquin Valley local slaughterers were reported as buying a few fat lambs on an immediate purchase basis at \$15 per hundredweight, f.o.b. loading points. Other sales were reported as having been made at \$14 to \$14.50 for the fat end, gate sort, with the privilege of taking a second cut later. On account of the large number of feeder lambs expected in later deliveries, no large scale future contracting of California lambs is looked for.

Wool Market Clips

ALL branches of the wool industry have been looking for the release of the official order covering the purchase of the 1944 wool clip by the Commodity Credit Corporation. Latest information is to the effect that it will be out on April 8. In the meantime dealers with assured warehouse space are soliciting consignments in the territory states. Up to March 26, the Office of Distribution of the War Food Administration reports, 13,652,810 pounds of the 1944 clip had been appraised. Pulled wools made up a large part of this total, but 1,148,815 pounds of territory wools were included.

The California Wool Grower of April 4 reports that 465,000 pounds of twelve-months' wool of the 1944 clip, grown in the San Joaquin Valley, was appraised by C.C.C. appraisers in Fresno on March 28 and 29. Payments were made to the growers on April 1 on the basis of the 1943 price schedule. Some outright purchasing of 1944 wools by mills, particularly in the Northwest, are also being made under the terms of the 1943 order. The 1944 clip of Senator Thomas of Idaho, amounting to about 10,000 fleeces, was reported as being sold during the month to the Portland, Oregon, woolen mills at 43 to 43½ cents.

Stockpile Auctions

THE Office of Distribution, War Food Administration, reports the auction sales of stockpile wools in March as follows:

Government reserve wools totaling 11,918,122 pounds were offered in a public auction on Thursday, March 9. Of 4,324,189 pounds of Montevideo wools offered 4,221,070 pounds were sold—one lot of 50s selling at ceilings. Bidding was inclined to be slow on the fine (60s/64s) wool and sales were mostly at upset prices. Quarter-blood and ¾s wools were in demand, and sales made up to 6½ cents, grease basis, above upset prices. Australian grease wools offered totaled 5,529,863 pounds, of which 3,914,428 pounds were sold.

Of the grease Australian wools offered, 2,248,756 pounds had been offered in the previous sale. Of this total 1,374,798 pounds were sold on second offering. Upset prices

and ceilings on these wools had been reduced about one-half a cent, grease basis. As in the previous auction, the least interest was shown in the superfine wools. Of the 1,615,435 pounds passed, 409,081 pounds were 70s and above 1,017,153 pounds were 64s/70s, and 188,601 pounds were 64s.

Of 1,286,619 pounds of scoured Australian wools offered, 691,411 pounds were sold. Prices were about 2 per cent above upset prices. One lot of 64s lambs wool sold at ceiling price of 96.65 cents.

The least interest was shown in carbonized wools. Of 777,451 pounds offered 330,390 pounds were sold, with prices from 1 to 3 per cent above upset valuations. Most of the carbonized wools offered had been included in the previous sale.

March 23 (Third Auction)

An auction of stockpile wool was held in Boston on March 23. Of 3,825,407 pounds of Montevideo wools offered 3,505,822 pounds were sold at an out-of-bond grease price range of 53¼ to 62½ cents. No sales of 48s/46s were made of the 104,371 pounds offered, the balance passed was of 60s/64s weighing 215,274 pounds. As in the previous auction, practically no interest was shown in the extra fine (64s/70s) Australian wools offered. Of 7,730,063 pounds offered, 4,964,657 pounds were sold—only one lot selling at ceiling. The scoured wools were very slow. Of 971,141 pounds offered 232,032 pounds were sold. The Montevideo and the scoured Australian wools offered were a little inferior to those included in previous sales.

(There has been some criticism of offering so many inferior wools in the March 23 sale. Many of them are reported by trade papers as being suitable only for Continental use which "supports the trade idea that considerable volume of stockpile wools should be distributed abroad thereby lessening the amount of surpluses hanging over the domestic market." Officials of the auction, it is understood, were aware that many of the lots would be withdrawn, but claim it was necessary to offer them formally.)

April 6 (Fourth Auction)

An A.P. dispatch out of Boston on April 6 says:

Approximately two thirds of the clip offered Thursday at the fourth auction of stockpile wools was sold.

The total amount offered was 13,408,044 pounds, of which 8,938,490 pounds were bought.

A total of 3,398,347 pounds of Montevideo wools were offered and 3,187,553 pounds were sold, the lots offered being practically all super wools.

Bidding on the Montevideo lots was active with prices about 1 to 1½ cents, grease basis, above those of the previous sale. The

average ceiling price was 65.66 cents, average sales price was 60.22 cents and the average upset price, 57.17 cents, according to Department of Agriculture observers.

Australian grease wools offered totaled 9,181,953 pounds, of which 5,357,087 pounds were sold.

Bidding on the Australian wools was reported slower by agriculture department observers, and sales generally were closer to upset prices than in previous sales.

The average ceiling price was 59.83 cents, average sales price 56.94 cents and average upset price 56.60 cents.

More auctions are scheduled for April 24, May 4 and May 18, and June 1.

The Domestic Market

The month of March in the domestic wool market is reviewed by the Office of Distribution of the War Food Administration, as follows:

After receiving many inquiries on fine and half-blood domestic wools early in the month, interest dropped with very few sales. This condition continued until the closing week when considerable activity developed. Sizable purchases of graded and original-bag lots of territory wools were made. Although most of these purchases were made for use in Quartermaster Corps orders requiring the use of domestic wool, some was bought in preference to lower-priced foreign wools for use in civilian cloth. This was because of their unsurpassed quality of producing a hard-finished cloth.

Medium domestic wools continued in demand, with most of the business centered in the three-eighths grade. Very little quarter blood wool was available and sales could be made as soon as offered.

Purchasing of early shorn wools was reported in Missouri, Ohio, and to a small extent in Michigan, Iowa and Minnesota. These wools are of a little heavier shrinkage compared to 1943.

Bids were asked on 5,010,000 yards of 10½-ounce flannel cloth, made of 100 per cent domestic wool of 60s grade; 2,820,000 pairs of 50 per cent wool drawers and 2,867,000 undershirts of 50 per cent wool by the Quartermaster Corps.

The Treasury Procurement Division asked for bids on 4,400,356 yards of cloth of various percentages of wool content. Most of the wools to be used in these orders are reused or reprocessed.

Cloth manufacturers continue to fall further behind on civilian orders, having underestimated the requirements for the armed forces.

A total of 261,083,684 pounds of wool of the 1943 clip had been appraised by the C.C.C. up to the end of March, and about 77 million or a third of it had been sold to manufacturers.

The Lamb Markets

Chicago

A SHARP shrinkage in the sheep supply on the market map was strongly apparent for the month of March, indicating a lighter feeding in the western area as well as in the Central West. Chicago showed a total of 135,000, the smallest for the month in over 50 years, and for the year thus far, the Chicago total is about 45,000 below that for the first three months last year. Local traders attribute the decrease largely to the unfavorable restrictions put on by federal agencies and to the sharply higher cost of labor and feed. During the first three months of the year approximately 250,000 fewer ovine stock were marketed around the circuit than last year.

Mainly because of Government regulations, there was very little fluctuation in the prices of lambs during the month. Cattle were practically stabilized on an average basis with \$16 for the average choice. Hogs broke away from the floor top of \$13.75 when receipts dropped off sharply and progressed up to \$14.45 before buyers called a halt. Thus far there has been no ceiling placed on lamb prices but the trade would not be surprised at such a directive in the near future.

During the month a large percentage of the lamb supply came from west of the Missouri River, mostly from Colorado. Receipts from the middle western farms dwindled to small proportions late in the month, indicating that few will be available from that source in April.

The top price for the month was \$16.70, paid on the 23rd for a shipment from Colorado that averaged 95 pounds. A large percentage of the good lambs sold at \$16 to \$16.50, with scattered loads at \$16.50 to \$16.65.

Packers tried to hold the market under the \$16.50 line for good quality lambs. However, in the general run of lambs from all sources, there were a good many that were short fed that sold at \$14 to \$15.50 and some in the cull class at \$13 to \$14. The month's supply carried a good many fall shorn lambs that were rated mainly by their pelt

quality and sold at \$14.50 to \$15.50 with the best at \$15.75. Buyers commented on the limited number of heavy lambs in the month's crop, indicating a tendency to save feed. Receipts included a moderate supply of good lambs out of Nebraska and Montana.

Not enough feeder lambs were received to establish quotations fairly. Packers were inclined to buy anything that had any killing quality. A few feeders were bought at \$12.50 to \$13.50, and one small shipment went out at \$13.75.

Yearlings were scarcer than they have been any time this season and hardly enough were received to establish quotations fairly. Some yearling wethers were reported at \$14 to \$15, and lighter weight ewes at \$12 to

\$13.25. Two-year-old wethers were quoted at \$11 to \$13. Demand was particularly strong for good slaughter ewes but not many were available. One load averaging 116 pounds sold at \$9.50, highest paid this year and highest since December, 1942. Good ewes were scarce all month and sold largely at \$8 to \$9, with commoner kinds at \$7.50 to \$8. There was a good call for breeding ewes but few showed up. One lot brought \$9.50.

No California lambs of any importance are expected to show up here during the spring months on account of the urgent demand for the dressed product on the Pacific Coast for the armed forces. On that account the April lamb supply is expected to be relatively small, though receipts in that month

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1944	1943
F. I. Slaughter, March	1,537,798	1,495,078
Week Ended:	April 1	April 3
Slaughter at 31 Cents	291,410	282,146
Chicago Average Live Lamb Prices (Wooled)		
Good and Choice	\$16.34	\$16.00
Medium and Good	15.10	14.60
New York Average Western Dressed Lamb Prices		
Choice, 30-40 pounds	26.38	28.12
Good, 30-40 pounds	24.88	26.62
Commercial, all-weights	22.88	24.62

Weight, Yield and Cost of Sheep and Lambs Slaughtered

	Feb. 1944	Jan. 1944	Feb. 1943
Average live weight (pounds)	94.1	93.1	93.6
Average yield (per cent)	45.6	45.4	45.4
Average cost per 100 lbs. (\$)	14.53	13.27	14.41

Federally Inspected Slaughter—February

	1944	1943
Cattle	1,043,000	854,000
Calves	441,000	331,000
Hogs	7,380,000	4,335,000
Sheep	1,501,000	1,499,000

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last year were larger than the previous
March.

A year ago at this time lambs were
selling at about the same average as
now. Top in March last year was
\$16.75 with the average for fed western
lambs at \$16.40. The Government re-
port of 5 per cent fewer lambs in the
spring crop is a good guarantee that
prices will hold up comparatively high
during the summer, for the general de-
mand, both on army and domestic ac-
count, is much better than normal. The
movement of feeder lambs during the
first three months this year showed a
big decrease from last year, which is
further indication of a continuation of
good prices.

Frank E. Moore

Kansas City

RECEIPTS of lambs at the Kansas
City market during the last week
of March consisted largely of offerings
of just medium and good grades, with
only scattered loads of good and choice
quality available. This condition has
been typical of the entire month of
March and buyers have continually
complained that offerings were unat-
tractive and killing margins at prevail-
ing prices almost negligible.

The feature of the month's trade was
the arrival during the week ending
March 24 of the first shipment of
spring lambs of the season. They came
from Texas, averaged 92 pounds and
brought \$16.25 per hundredweight, a
price which was equaled on the same
day by strictly choice Colorado fed
lambs. During the final week of the
month a few small lots of good and
choice native spring lambs realized
\$15.75 to \$15.90, and some common
bunches sold around \$12.50.

Few clipped lambs have been avail-
able during the month and those that
have arrived have been largely of medi-
um and good quality, some fall shorn,
but mostly with No. 1 skins. At the
close such kinds sold around \$13.25, and
a few common lots with No. 2 skins
went at \$10 to \$12. Quality of slaughter
ewes has held up better than that of
lambs, and a new high for the season
was set at \$9 during the month. On
most sessions feeding lambs, which
were in comparatively limited supply,
met with an indifferent outlet. At the
close 84-pound averages went back to
feed lots at \$13.25, but others of similar

(Continued on page 35)

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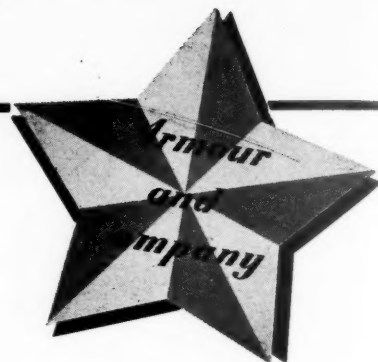
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weight and similar flesh condition sold for slaughter at \$13.25 to \$13.50.

For the month, good and choice lambs were considered steady to 15 cents higher than at the close of February and at the month-end were quotable at \$15.50 to \$16, a decline of 25 cents from the month's high spot. Other grades were mostly steady, with medium and good grades selling from \$14 to \$15.25 and those of common quality from \$11.50 to \$13.75. Good and choice slaughter ewes were generally a half dollar higher for the month and at the close sold at \$8.25 to \$9, while common and medium grades were 25 to 50 cents up at \$6.50 to \$8.

Bob Riley

St. Joseph

RECEIPTS for March showed a good increase with a month and a year ago, the total being 130,293 compared with 85,167 in February and 111,152 in March a year ago. Offerings were mostly from western feed lots, the number from Colorado being about 45,000, from Nebraska 26,900, Wyoming 4,400, and Texas and New Mexico 14,171.

Quality of lambs was good, and bulk of each day's sales was set at the top price. Compared with a month ago, prices on woolled lambs were generally steady, while clips showed some decline. The top ranged from \$15.90 to \$16.25 during the month, with the close at \$16, and a few loads of less desirable kinds at \$15.25 @ \$15.75. Best natives sold at \$15.75 on the close. Clipped lambs, largely from the Southwest, sold during the last week from \$13.75 @ \$13.85. Ewes were comparatively scarce throughout the month and prices were 25 @ 50 cents higher than the close of February. Most good kinds from local territory sold on the close at \$8.25 @ \$9, with common grades down to \$6.

H. H. Madden

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SHEEP receipts for March, 1944, totaled approximately 182,000 head compared to 169,000 in 1943, an increase of 13,000 head. For the first three months of the year, receipts totaled approximately 377,000 head compared to 363,000 in 1943, an increase of about 14,000 head.

At the low time during the first week of March, most good and choice woolled lambs had to sell at \$15.85 and \$15.90, freight paid, others going at \$15.65 to \$15.75 on a flat basis. The closing bulk went at \$16 flat and freight paid. Woolled truck-ins closed at \$15 to \$15.25. The close looked about 25 cents lower on all classes. Ewes were very scarce and showed little price change. The top on slaughter kinds remained at \$8. Feeding lambs held up well, considering that the slaughter market was under pressure. Most good and choice feeders went out at \$12.75 to \$13.75; one fleshy, around 80-pound load making \$14.25. Shearing lambs averaging 91 pounds, sold at \$14.85.

Fat lambs advanced sharply during the second week and the market closed anywhere from strong to 25 cents higher, most lambs advancing 10 to 15 cents. Good and choice woolled lambs were carried up to \$16.25, freight paid. The top for the week on a flat basis was \$16.10. Some woolled lambs grading mostly good went to local killers at \$15.50 to \$15.75. Ewes closed 25 to 50 cents higher, one good and choice load making \$8.40. Feeding lambs also strengthened slightly. One good to choice load sold at \$13.50 memo and trucked-in feeders from \$11 to \$13.65.

Very little price change was shown in any class this week; \$16.15 freight paid, and \$16 flat, took the best woolled lambs. Slaughter ewes again touched \$8.50, but in a small way. Two loads grading medium to good went at \$7.40, freight paid. Shearing lambs averaging 76 to 91 pounds went out at \$14 to \$14.25 and some medium to good 61-pound feeders made \$12 in load lots.

Due primarily to the snow storm on Tuesday of the third week, marketing of lambs was rather sharply curtailed. However, the general quality was probably as good as at any time this season although wet fleeces tended to increase the dead cost. Good and choice fed woolled lambs topped at \$16.25 freight paid, and \$16.15 flat. There were relatively few loads that went memo and these ranged from \$15.75 to \$16.10.

Trucked-in medium to good lambs sold over a range of \$14.25 to \$15.50, or just a bit stronger than the previous week. Best slaughter ewes for the week were mostly choice 139-pounders at \$9. Feeding lambs were very scarce, with one deck of good and choice around 80-pounds scoring \$14, and a deck of 90-pound fleshy kinds at \$14.35.

During the last week under review, a broad demand for fat lambs was exhibited. Compared with the previous week, prices were unchanged for all classes.

Jacqueline O'Keefe

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(Continued from page 22)

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(Continued on page 38)

1943 State Auxiliary Activities

ONE would think after reading the report of the War Service work carried on by members of the auxiliary that there wouldn't be time for any other type of activity.

Generally speaking, meetings have been curtailed somewhat during the past year due to the fact that many of the members have to travel quite a distance to attend and this wasn't possible with such a shortage of gasoline and rubber tires. However, presidents of chapters and committees have been active, holding their membership together and trying in different ways to keep before the public the importance of wool and lamb. Though it isn't considered patriotic to urge the greater consumption of meat during times of meat rationing, the auxiliary feels that meat should not be displaced in the diet, and that we can spread the knowledge of the better use and care of available woolen supplies until such a time as restrictions have been lifted and we can once again push forward with our usual promotion campaigns.

Memberships have held their own and in some instances been increased, which speaks well for those in charge, for it is no mean feat to hold the line when there are such difficulties to face.

The Washington State Auxiliary is continuing its practice of grand prizes in connection with 4H Club work. Also at their annual meeting \$25 was donated to help in the attempt to control damage done by elk and deer in their state.

Financially, the Idaho Auxiliary stands in much better shape than ever before. They have a \$500 War Bond and have about \$900 in their treasury. During the past year they have had match books printed and distributed and in other ways tried to keep people lamb and wool conscious.

Members of the Oregon Auxiliary have been urged to keep up attendance at meetings, hold social activities, sewing clubs, picnics, help at lamb shows and 4H Club activities as much as possible. Baker County held its annual "Barbecue" with Gus Gekas and Charles Lee barbecuing the lamb Greek fashion. The hundred-pound lamb was donated by Charles Lee. The officers visited no local chapter during the year on account of the gas ration-

ing but endeavored, through correspondence, to keep the organization intact.

The Oregon group also sent out seventy letters to 4H Club leaders over the state and paid for five lamb awards, four Dollar Dinner awards, two pairs of sheep shears at the Pacific International, and two prizes for best letters from award winners.

Oregon gained financially during the past year with a fat bank balance of \$1023, in addition to two \$100 War Bonds. This excellent financial showing is due partly to the fact that the state officers have taken no trips, but it largely resulted from the generosity of different sheepmen who have donated rams to be auctioned off for the benefit of the auxiliary, and of the Pendleton Woolen Mills, who consistently give the auxiliary blankets to be raffled off for funds.

Texas feels that their goal, set a year ago, of furthering the war effort in every possible way was carried out nobly. A scholarship was given Miss Marjorie Hunsucker of Junction, Texas, to assist her in taking a nurse's training course. A Roll of Honor containing the names of all husbands, brothers, sons and daughters of members of the auxiliary who are now serving in the armed forces was prepared. The auxiliary has endorsed the blood bank and members have given countless hours to Red Cross and U.S.O. work and to all other war activities. Articles concerning our industry have been contributed to some of the sheep magazines, and by this and correspondence with executive officers and the Advisory Board, Texas has tried to keep alive the spirit of the organization in spite of travel restrictions.

The Colorado Auxiliary has not had nearly so much opportunity to contribute to war service activities as the other state auxiliaries because there is very little war work being done in the localities in which the auxiliary is active. However, they feel it is the duty of the women to keep promoting wool and lamb until the time comes when they can be used to the fullest extent. Wherever they have had an opportunity to aid in Red Cross work, sewing or any other war effort, their members respond most gratifyingly.

From a tabulation of the work done this past year in the Utah chapters, it

appears most of their efforts went toward different types of war service work. Besides this, however, regular 4H Club contests were carried on and prizes given to the girls with the best woolen costumes. A booth was maintained at the Utah State Fair in conjunction with the wool growers' organization.

Oregon

THE Lucas Place was the scene for the luncheon and business meeting of the local Wool Growers' Auxiliary meeting for February. Mrs. Roy Neill, president, presided. The following standing committees were appointed: Program, Mrs. W. P. Mahoney, Mrs. W. O. Bayless, Mrs. Stephen Thompson; Hostess, Mrs. Gene Ferguson, Mrs. Harlan McCurdy, Mrs. L. E. Dick, Sr.; Courtesy, Josephine Mahoney, Anna Q. Thompson; War Work, Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson; Membership Campaign, Mrs. R. I. Thompson, who will choose assistant workers; Telephone, Mrs. Allen Green, Mrs. Kenneth House, Mrs. Alva Jones, Mrs. Harvey Bauman, Mrs. Clifford Conrad. Josephine Mahoney was unanimously elected to be the press correspondent for the chapter.

A discussion was held about what to do to help the community in its activity for youth entertainment and it was decided to confer with the other organizations of the town.

The group then went to the home of Mrs. W. O. Bayless and met with the members of All Saints Episcopal guild where war production and war pictures were shown by Mr. Skelly of the Pacific Power and Light company, assisted by Kenneth House, local manager.

Josephine Mahoney,
Corresponding Secretary

Material for this department should be sent to the National Press Correspondent, Mrs. Emory C. Smith, 1835 Yalecrest Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.

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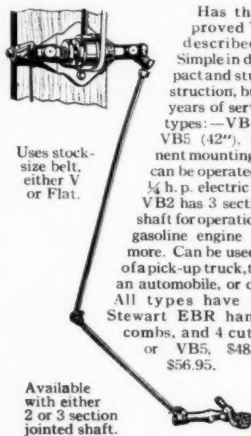
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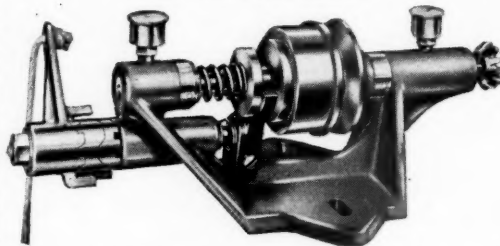
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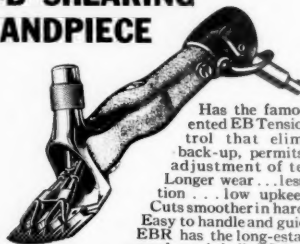
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Letter to John

March 1, 1944

"Last Sunday Dad and I rode through the meadows down along the river to look over our steers. There hasn't been much snow this winter and we haven't had any bad storms. That's a good thing because we couldn't get much cotton cake last fall, but we had plenty of hay. The steers have come through in good shape. About the time you read this letter there will be lots of work to do. Dad says that, without you here to help, I will have to take on a man's work this year. That's all right with me. You're doing a lot tougher job. I guess."

From a farm boy's letter to his big soldier brother

An American ranch boy in Europe knows the words of this letter from home by heart. He feels good inside because it tells him the folks back home are doing their best to help him — by getting all the extra work done — even though he isn't there to lend a hand.

The production of beef and other meat is a mighty important war job. Meat keeps John and all the other American fighting men fit for the hardships of battle. Meat provides proteins and vitamins for home-front workers who are keyed to peak production of the things John needs.

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into our business. This is important, for it means that none of the livestock grower's war effort is lost.

Farmers will confirm that there is never a year when all types of farming pay, never a year when all lose. So it is with us. When some departments make money, others show a loss. But through diversification, new markets for new products are developed, and improved outlets provided for the grower's cash crops.

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- "Cows and Chickens, U.S.A."
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Stockmen, with the shortage of manpower you are going to have a heck of a time to get your work done this year. You will be glad to have someone help take the load off of your shoulders, more so if you know that the fellow can do the job better than you can.

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